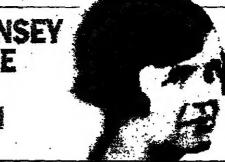


SIMON **Curtains** for the

ENO PAGE 22

was kinsey PAGE 20



**GEORGE SOROS** 

How monetary union will destroy Europe

PAGE 22



Judge considering plea for release

# Louise ruling to be given on Internet

LOUISE WOODWARD May learn today whether she is to escape the life sentence imposed on her for murdering the eight-month-old baby

Judge Hiller B. Zobel, who heard emergency motions calling for her release yesterday, said that he could publish his decision on the Internet today. He also gave a hint that the verdict could be reduced to one of assault and battery. which would mean that she could be freed from Framingham prison immediately.

If he does not give his rulingtoday, Woodward will have to wait at least until Monday to

The judge's statement came after a day of intense arguments by lawyers for both the defence and prosecution in the Cambridge, Massachusetts, court where the 19-year-old British au pair was convicted last Thursday night. Woodward was not in court, but h parents were in the public gallery, as was Matthew's

mother, Deborah Eappen. The defence argued that the murder conviction was unsustainable and asked the judge to quash it or order fresh trial. Failing that, Woodward's lawyers called for the verdict to be reduced to manslaughter admitting that excluding that possibility during the trial might have been a mistake. "I leave it to your conscience," the defence counsel Barry

Scheck told the judge The prosecution countered that the second-degree murder conviction should stand and scoffed at suggestion that it be reduced to manslaughter, say-

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HOMES \_\_\_\_

LAW REPORT ...



Scheck: "I leave it to your conscience"

ing: "The defence should not be permitted to sample the jury's verdict and then elect to move for a reduction to the very charged they opposed sending to the jury in in the

In calling for an acquittal or retrial. Mr Scheck concentrated on autopsy photographs that had been made available to the defence only after all experts from both sides had These photographs prove Mr Scheck contended, that the skull fracture suffered by Matthew was an old injury that could not have been inflicted on February 4, the day Woodward is said to have shaken or dropped the child. Mr Scheck said that the belated disclosure of this exculpatory evidence led directly to injustice. There is no argument about the fact

that the skull fracture is old. With these photographs in hand there cannot be a guilty

Nigella Lawson, page 21

defence had the photographs earlier, they could have been used in the cross-examination of Dr Gerald Feigin, a neuro-surgeon at the Boston Chil-dren's Hospital on whom the prosecution relied to argue that the skull fracture was fresh. "Not having these pho-tographs, which showed that healing and 'lipping' had begun, impaired our ability to contradict Dr Peigin's histological arguments... it is not a question of how skilfully we played our cards, but whether

or not we had a fair deck."

He also said that had the defence had access to "this overwhelmingly strong scien-tific evidence, it might not have called Woodward to give

Mr Scheck's Harvey Silver giate then argued that the murder verdict should be reduced to manslaughter, even though the defence still did not accept that she was responsie for Maithew's deati

Mr Silverglate said that even if the jury rejected the defence case that the injury was old, we don't know whether they convicted her for doing something trivial that was consistent with an accident". That would tend to support the theory that the jury would prefer a verdict of involuntary manslaughter resulting from reckless conduct. which does not attract a life

But the prosecution lawyers Gerard Leone and Martha Coakley argued that the guilty verdict should not be Continued on page 2, col 5



Carolyn Parrington, who decided to waive her anonymity to encourage other women to report rapes, at home near Leicester yesterday

# Rape victim wins record damages

A MOTHER of three has been awarded record damages of nearly £74,000 by a county court judge after she sued her former boss, whom she accused of raping her twice.

With costs, this will take the total bill for the company director she claimed attacked ber to over £132,000. Carolyn Parrington agreed yesterday to waive her anonymity in The Times to encourage other women to report rapes after she left it too late to bring a

Judge Victor Hall found that Ms Parrington. 44. was indecently assaulted and raped twice by her boss, Alan Marriott, 43, while working as a laboratory rechnician for a Leicester textile company where he was production director. She said that the first

attack, in February 1992, took place in the firm's lavatories, while Mr Marriours wife Lorraine, who worked as his secretary, was in a nearby room. The second rape, she alleged, took place in her son's bedroom nine months later when Mr Marriott called unexpectedly at her home.

She said she was so devastated and ashamed that she could not bring herself to go to the police, which meant that by the time she had summoned the courage to do so, vital scientific evidence was lost.

For a conviction, a case in the criminal courts must be proven beyond reasonable doubt, whereas in the civil courts a plaintiff can win on a lower degree of proof with "on the balance of probabilines".

After an eight-day hearing at Leicester County Court, the judge

awarded Mis Partington £73,776 damages on Monday in a ground-breaking judgment. Mr Marriott was also ordered to pay £13,500 to the DSS for benefits paid to Ms Parrington because she was unable to work as a result of her ordeal, as well as an estimated

£45,000 in costs. included in the damages was £30,000 of aggravated damages after Mr Marriott told the court that Ms Parrington was promiscuous and had consented to sex. The judge described this as "culpable behaviour" which called for a large element of aggravat-

ed damages. The previous highest award was £50,000 by the Appeal Court in November 1995 when Linda Griffiths sued her former boss, Arthur Williams, saying that he raped her while she was working for him as a

dishwasher at his hotel in Cornwall Ms Parrington, of Broughton Astley Leicestershire, is donating a substantial part of her award to her local Rape Crisis Centre. She said: "I did not bring this case to get money for myself, but to punish him. He should be in prison, but, like many women, I was so traumatised by what he did to me that I could not bring myself to tell anyone, let alone go to the police straight away.

"I felt shame and guilt, so I just switched off and presended that it had not happened. It has been a painful five years for me and I am still recovering with the help of counselling and with the support of my boyfriend."

Ms Parrington, who has a 23-yearold daughter and 19-year-old son from her marriage, and a three-year-old son with her current partner, suffers Continued on page 2, col 5

# Prince heals Spencer rift with tribute to Diana's charity work

FROM ALAN HAMILTON.
IN CAPE TOWN

He added that had the

verdict."

FOR the first time since the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, the Prince of Wales last night paid public tribute to his former wife's charity work. Speaking at a formal dinner

in Cape Town hosted by President Mandela and with the late Princess's brother, Earl Spencer, among the guests, the Prince offered a gesture of reconciliation towards the Spencer family, helping to heal a rift opened by the Earl in his acerbic address at his sister's funeral. The Prince, in the keynote

speech of his five-day official South African visit, told his audience in the presidential residence. The bonds beween our peoples were demonstrated most clearly after the tragic and untimely death of Diana. I would like to take this opportunity to convey my sons' and my gratitude to all

those South Africans who took the time and trouble to express their condolences. Their messages have been greatly appreciated, and there have been

very, very many of them."
He continued: "Over the last few days I have been made very aware of the special importance to Africans of Diana's work to combat such things as Aids, poverty and the use of landmines. And her efforts. I know, in these areas have brought a real difference to the lives of very many people, on this continent and

Lord Spencer, along with all the other guests, gave the Prince a standing ovation at the end of his speech. Earlier, Lord Spencer said: "I have an understanding relationship with the Prince. My family is united in doing everything we can to help in the raising of William and Harry."

The Prince and Lord Spencer, who had not met since the day after the Princess's funeral, had a brief conversation after the banquet

At the start of the banquet, at which guests dined on medallions of ostrich with pumpkin fritters, Archbishop Desmond Tutu said in his grace: "We thank you for the life of our President. We thank you for the life of Mother Teresa. We thank you for the life of Princess Diana. And we thank you for the visit of the Prince of Wales."

The Prince's speech caused some confusion before its delivery. An advance text issued to reporters earlier in the day contained the tribute to the Princess, but in a second version distributed immediately before the banquet, most of the references had been removed. When the Prince spoke, he restored almost all of the original.

Last night, the Prince spoke of his immense pleasure at being in South Africa, and

What I have seen here of people working together with for a brighter future, despite all the many awesome chal-lenges which have to be faced, sends me away immensely heartened, and confident that South Africa is firmly on the

road to succes "But what has heartened me most, Mr President, has been listening to you during the course of the conversations I have been fortunate to have with you. If I may say so, you have a huge gift for storytelling in the great African tradition. But you also have a unique gift for the kind of forgiveness that transforms.

redeems and renews." At a banquet in Durban last ight the Prince said that he had been given so many spears as gifts that he could start a Zulu war of his own.

Police seek Fiat. page 19

## Royal Opera could face bankruptcy within week

By NICHOLAS WOOD

THE Royal Opera company could be forced to declare itself bankrupt within a week, Lord Chadlington, its chairman, told MPs yesterday.

In a graphic warning of the extent of the crisis at Covent Garden, Lord Chadlington disclosed that he was having daily talks with benefactors in an attempt to keep it affoat. He said that he had until November 12 to present a rescue package to the Arts Council. Covent Garden is

losing £4.7 million a year and its difficulties have been intensified by its closure pending a two-year redevelopment. Lord Chadlington's revelations came as Gerald Kauf-man, chairman of the Culture. Media and Sports select com-

mittee, suggested that the lifeblood of the country's premier opera house was "dribbling away all the time". Lord Chadlington told the



"If Chris Smith can get evervone in opera under one roof surely we can manage my parenis for Christmas"

MPs: "We have looked at two or three options involving third parties, but to give details would be wrong. If we

cannot get funds into the

Royal Opera House in the very short term, the probabili-ty is the house will become Lord Chadlington, who has been chairman a year, said that only after recent manage-

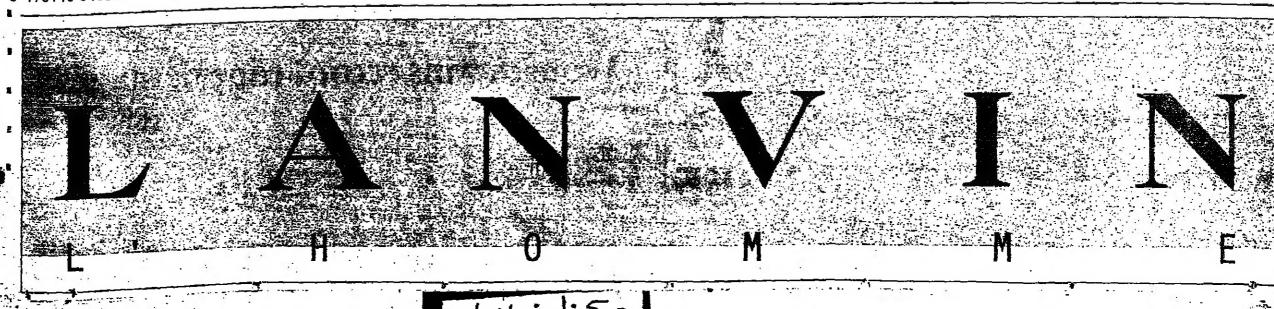
possible to get clear and accurate figures about the company. It had spent a year without a finance director. Trying to get a grip on the figures had been like "trying to catch a falling star. They changed every month in the

ment changes had it been

most alarming way He said that if the opera company continued its activi-ties while insolvent its directors could be guilty of "wrongly trading". But it might be possible to stitch together a rescue plan. "It is going to be extremely difficult.

We have a small opportunity."

Culture clash, page 5 Simon Jenkins, page 22 Pas de trois, page 39



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l expressed mild alarm. He explained. "My dentist has been overwhelmed by the metalwork in my mouth." I looked baffled. "It's a meeting of the British Fluoridation Society," he said.

fluoridated when I was a boy. I would not have these dreadful teeth." Mr Brake ventured

Taking a quick peek into Wallington, Tom Brake - the MP's mouth, which was "Must rush," he said. "I'm off open at the time. I judged this harsh; but the incisors were ragged, the camines grey and the molars a terrible mess. How much of his dental

history did Mr Brake plan to offer the meeting? Before I could ask, he was gone.

We recount the tale in no spirit of mockery. There are only limited areas on which

only the water had been an MP can speak with passion, sincerity, genuine interest and full possession of all the facts, and we should be rateful if they stick to these. If Brake confines himself in debate to the subject of his own teeth he will never be contradicted.

Nor is this intended as critical of Mr Brake. We who have sat through tedious hours in which MPs elevate their own chatter to the status of leading testimony in national debate are relieved that at least Tom Brake has a sense of humour about him-





self. But is it not a littlenoticed privilege of being an elected politician that you are paid to rehearse, amid all the gothic splendour of the Palace of Westminster, the sort of conversation ethers have while hanging out the washing, or on buses? Who else gets a salary, a chorus of hear-hear", a paragraph in

Hansard or a mention on

Yesterday in Parliament, for the anecdote, quack-theorising and half-ignorant saloon-bar chat that characterise Commons discourse? Only newspaper col-

umnists are luckier. My secretary, Mrs Wright has a friend with a troubled dental history. "Wendy could write a book about her teeth," Mrs Wright once confided. publish? Yet if we elected-Wendy to Parliament the story of her teeth could fill volumes of Hansard.

With Tom and Wendy in mind I looked in on MPs yesterday to hear Richard Spring (C, Suffolk W) intro-duce a Bill with no hope of making it into law: the Prohibition of Bull Bars Bill.

Mr Spring was already in mid-flow. "... so I got out of my Volvo Estate to examine the damage. I was horrified The MP was telling one of those interminable motorMPs nodded interestedly. . The chassis was buckled. The car was a write-off.

Now, if a buil-bar can do that to a Volvo Estate, imagine the damage it could do ... Richard Spring's purpose was noble intended to save lives. He is one of a brave and determined hand of back-

benchers from all parties who are campaigning for the prohibition of "bull-bars". Doubtless these accessories can be lethal. But now the European Commission knowabout the state of Mr Spring's

After Spring had finished, Tory Education Spokesman Stephen Dorrell opened a debate on Government proposals for student finance.

He spoke well but it was his audience which interested me. A great man, often too busy to: attend such occasions, slipped in. Soon listening intently was Kenneth Clarke, the former Charcellor and the founder member of the new Eurofriendy "Conservative Main-

It is not yet known whether Mr Dorrell is a sympathiser.

# Labour and Lib Dems try to reverse Eurosceptic tide

Brown attacks bogus patriotism of the Right, reports Philip Webster

**SUMMIT HITS NEW HEIGHTS** 

open spaces have been them what we could do."

counter Eurosceptic sentiment in Britain was launched by the Government and the Liberal Democrats last night, as Gordon Brown attacked the "bogus" patriotism of the Right.

Tony Blair, senior ministers and Liberal Democrat leaders took the first steps towards to what may eventually become a cross-party coalition for a "yes" campaign in a single currency referendum after the

At only the second meeting of the Labour-Liberal Cabinet committee on the constitution, the party leaders agreed that the British presidency of the January, should aim to build a "national consensus" that Britain gained from Europe and Europe benefited from

The Chancellor fired an opening shot by rejecting Europeanism was pro-British, as he delivered some of his most enthusiastic remarks yet about the prospects of Britain eventually being part of eco-

nomic and monetary union. He declared, in the annual Spectator lecture, that a pro-European consensus on the single currency was already being built, and added that Britain had always thrived when it was outward-looking and internationalist rather than isolationist

His lecture came hours after the Cabinet committee meeting attended by Mr Blair, Paddy Ashdown, Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary. Peter Mandelson, the Minister without Portfolio, and leading Liberal Democrats was dominated by a debate about the need for Britain to take a more

Mr Blair's spokesman said after the meeting that both sides had agreed that they had a shared interest in "making Britain less Eurosceptic" and that a successful British presidency would help towards that goal by showing the British people the benefits of Britain being a strong and leading

player in Europe. The campaign would try to show that Euroscepticism was not the way to advance the

in London's Docklands is

to host this week's Anglo-

French summit as part of

Tony Blair's drive to up-date Britain's image (Polly

The Prime Minister will

meet his French counter-

part, Lionel Jospin, and

President Chirae in sur-

roundings which are a

world away from previous

summit venues such as

Chequers and Downing

Street, Discussions will be

held on two floors of the

above the Thames. Big

Newton writes).

national interest, officials said. Persuading the public of the potential benefits of a single currency went hand in hand with engendering a more posi-

tive approach.
"Paddy Ashdown is a significant figure. If you have got people like him and his colleagues, and Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine arguing a case, then people will respond to that, providing the argument is right."

A Liberal Democrat source

added: "We agreed that one of our aims would be to start to build a national consensus, a grand coalition, behind the view that Britain benefits from Europe, and Europe benefits from British membership.

rooms and furnished by

British designers commis-

sioned by the Government.

A Foreign Office spokes-man said that careful

thought had gone into the setting. The theme that we

have been developing is the

tions working together into the millennium. The

choice of venue is designed

A government insider said: "The French have got

their Défense [the business

thought we would show

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to reflect this."

Mr Brown confirmed his reputation as one of Labour's foremost pro-Europeans by arguing there would be nothing unpatriotic about going into a successful single curren-cy. In a largely philosophical speech about "Britishness", Mr Brown said the British way was not to retreat into insularity and defensive isolationism but to be outward-

looking and adaptable. "Our history shows not just that we have always been a European power but that Britain has been European for we should dismiss the notion that our history suggests. being British is synonymous with being anti-European."

The Chancellor accused a Conservative Party which normally took a pragmatic view of British national interest of putting national economic inerests second to ideology.

Previous Conservative Governments have sensibly supported the pooling of sovereignty not just in Nato but in the single market, where it is in the British interest to do so." For years the Right had claimed it was the only patriotic party, and scorned patriotic people on the Left as being anti-British. This bogus dividing line had been swept aside. The old caricature — patriotic right versus disloval left - is exposed as hollow, a card that can never be pizyed again.

George Soros, page 22

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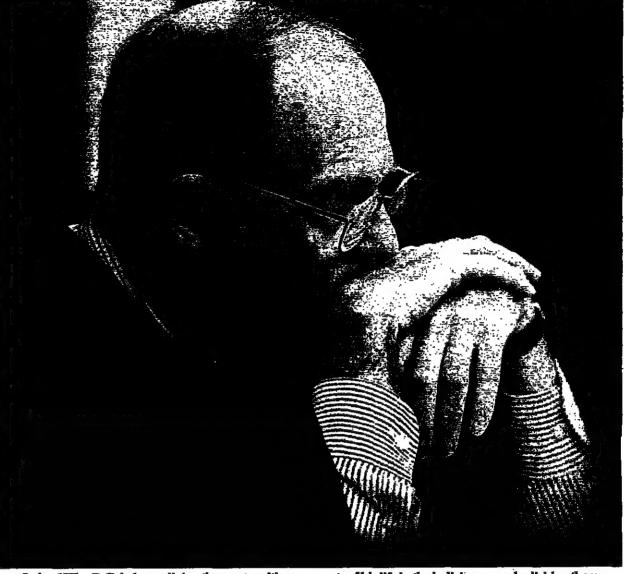
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Spessions GOLD



Judge Hiller B. Zobel, now living the most exciting moments of his life in the judiciary - and relishing them

# Old lion who is enjoying his chance to lap up the cream

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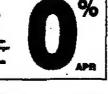
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AS PROTESTERS chant ceaselessly for Louise Woodward outside his concrete courthouse in Cambridge, as television stations debate the minutiae of the case, and as callers from all over the world jam the telephone lines to his chambers, Judge Hiller B. Zobel has been basking in the attention like an old lion in

It is fair to say that Judge Zobel, 64, is now living the most exciting moments of his life. Not often does a greyhaired provincial figure attract the world's gaze. Immodest to an almost endearing extent, Judge Zobel is, in the words of a prosecutor here. "just lapping it up like a cat does cream".

sack-load of post driven to his home, all letters of support for Woodward. "There's a likelihood that he read a fair few," an official said. Although he did not receive. the motion from the defence. and the counter-motion from the prosecution, until Monday afternoon, the arguments

spacious home in a Boston

suburb. Inside, in his book-

lined library, rich in volumes

on American history, he will

have focused hard on the fate

of Woodward. According to

court officials, he also had a

made by both sides were sufficiently obvious for him to have been working on a decision by as early as last Saturday. A prosecutor who has worked with him for years said: "There is no ques-tion that old Hiller is in his

His friends say that he

element. That's a good thing because we wouldn't want a nervous judge, or a tetchy judge, or a shrinking violet. who buckled under all the attention and lost his focus.

Widely regarded as one of the most erudite judges in Massachusetts, Judge Zobel, a former Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University, read law at Harvard Law School, from where he graduated with distinction in 1959.

Born in New York, to a German Jewish family. Judge Zobel was appointed to the state bench in 1979 by Governor Edward King. He arouses strong passions that are as often negative as they are in his favour. Many local lawyers regard him as a cantankerous maverick, who

these traits in a positive light, describing him as fiercely independent, "unafraid of the local political establishment", and "faithful to his principles alone, not those of other, lesser people".

Judge Zobet also has a welldocumented dislike for juries, as can be seen from an article

everyone else. Others see

he wrote in American Heritage magazine in 1995, in which he said that the judicial system expects, "average untrained people to absorb evidence for days and weeks on subjects entirely foreign to them without explanation". The article ended: "Perhaps the jury, to paraphrase what Churchill once said of democfor trying cases except for any

## Judge to give Internet ruling

Continued from page 1 overturned, nor should a retrial be ordered simply because the judge thought the jury had "got it wrong". Ms Coakley also rejected the defence claims that its late access to the autopsy pictures had changed the course of the trial X-rays studied during the trial were a much better guide to the injuries than any photograph.

Finally,Mr Leone argued against reducing the charge to manslaughter, saying: "If the jurors accepted Louise Woodward's story of what happened on February 4, they would have acquitted." For the verdict to be overturned, Woodward would have to produce a new version of

Towards the end of Mir Leone's argument, the judge asked him whether he considered Woodward's behaviour to fit the criteria for "assault and battery". Mr Leone said that it did. Under Massachusetts law.

the judge can reduce the charge against Woodwardto any lesser offence he thinks fit. If he were to reduce it to assault and battery, Woodward would face a maximum sentence of 24 years in a "house of correction" - not a state jail.

At the end of the hearing, Judge Zobel said that when he published his ruling, it would be broadcast on the Internet: www.iawyersweekly.com/

## Dismay in Elton at news of delay

BY RUSSELL JENKINS GROANS of disappointment

from supporters gathered in the pub in Louise Woodward's home village greeted the news that the Boston judge would not give an immediate decision on her fate. Villagers packed into the bar of The Rigger pub in the

village of Elton, in Cheshire closely followed the complicated legal manoeuvrings in the Boston courtroom via satellite television in the public bar. Although campaigners were less optimistic than they were before the verdict last week, many hoped for an indication from the bench that the teenager will soon be home. Eight domestic and Ameri-

can television crews caught the mood in the cramped bar swinging under the hot lights from expectancy, to disappointment and then a grim resolve for a much lengthier campaign to free Woodward. For some, like her close friend Kate Hagan, 19, there were tears again.

Miss Hagan, wearing a yellow "Free Louise" T-shirt; said: "It is like they are playing a time game with Louise. You can only take so much. We will have to wait for the next thing to happen. It is very distressing for us all. We are going to fight even harder now for Louise's release. It is a case of fighting.

fighting, fighting until we bring her home."

# Woman wins record rape damages

Continued from page ! flashbacks, nightmares, suicidal thoughts, sleeplessness and weight loss which has been diagnosed as post-

traumatic stress disorder. Her solicitor, Chris Greenwell of Tollers, Leicester, said: "This is a record amount of damages for a case of this kind. We were delighted that the judge was

prepared to give a higher award than the Court of Appeal, which gave the previous record-breaking damages." Ms Parrington, who married at the age out followed Ms Parrington into a lavatory of 18, says she was naive and vulnerable adjoining her laboratory, used only by

when Mr Marriott began sexually harassing her in 1991. She said: "I was already in an extremely fragile emotional state because I had just split up from my husband. Alan knew this and started sexually harassing me when we were alone together in the lab.

"He would ask quite disgusting questions. He also grabbed my breasts and bottom. When I objected, he laughed. He thought it was all a game." One day, in February 1992, Mr Marri-ott followed Ms Parrington into a lavatory

her and her colleague. It was there that he raped her; she says.

it was only when she met her current partner in 1993 that she was able to begin to talk about what had happened. She left the company in December 1993 and a doctor referred her to a Rape Crisis Centre. She underwent counselling before making a statement to the police in 1994. but decided against pursuing a criminal case due to lack of forensic evidence She now works as a waitress. She said:

Men in suits in positions of authority still frighten me so I cannot work in an office."

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# Bishop backs homosexual sex for over-16s

Harries's announcement plunges Church into crisis

that will rival women priests, reports Ruth Gledhill

# Boycott is declaring himself for the South

NELSON would have had to NELSON would have had to step off his column and amble down the Mall before Geoffrey Boycott left Yorkshire. The impossible, however, now looks inevitable. England and Yorkshire's doughtiest opening bat is set to sell up and move South. Not just down to Sheffield. He is going all the Sheffield. He is going all the way down to Bournemouth in Dorset - in cricketing terms,

a minor county.

Mr Boycott, who has par-layed the bloody-mindedness he showed in front of the stumps into a successful career as a cricket commentator, has put Pear Tree Farm, in the /Illage of Woolley, near Wakefield, on the market for a reported £600,000 through Hodson's estate agents in

Even in a county renowned. for the forthrightness of its residents, Mr Boycott's reluctance to keep his own council has made him as many ene-mies as friends. Nonetheless, he remains as potent a symbol

of Yorkshire as the epony-mous batter pudding.

Speaking on the television company TWI, for which he is commentating in Pakistan at the moment, Mr Boycott said: This rumour about me leaving Yorkshipe has been going got nothing to do with me." Mark Adams; of Hodson's, however, confirmed that Mr Boycott had asked to sell his

house by private treaty.

He has bought a £400,000 property in Bournemouth to share with his partner, Anne Wyatt. The cricket umpire Dickie Bird, a fellow Yorkshireman, said: "He is moving and going down to Bournemouth with Anne. He

**Philip Delves** Broughton on

the surprise as Yorkshire

hero ups stumps for Bournemouth

is a Yorkshireman through and through, which is why I am very surprised he is going.

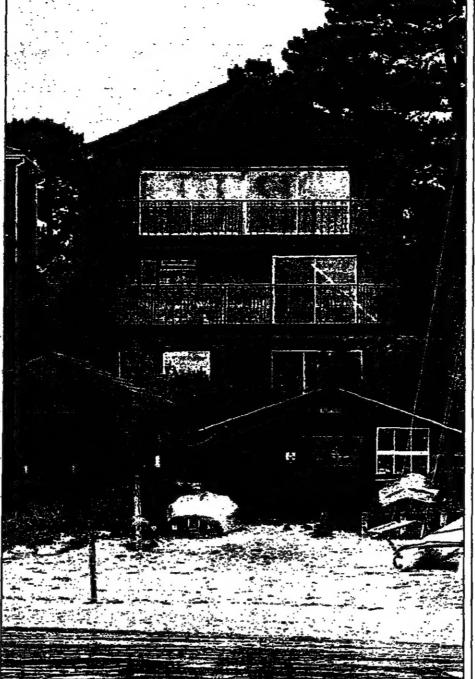
I would think he could move anytime now because they have already got a house in Bournemouth where they

are ready to move in," he added yesterday.
The vicar of St Peter's church in Woolley, the Rev Catherine Ogle, said: It's lovely to have a celebrity in the village but sadly he never came to church. We will be sorry to see him go though."

Others in the village were not so sorry. David Row-botham, owner of the local golf club, said: "He never partook in village activities, But that's his choice."

Mr Boycott was born in the: west Yorkshire pit village of Headingley in Leeds that he celebrated his greatest triumph, his 100th first class century, against the Austra-

Bernard Poulter, landlord of the Sir Geoffrey Boycott pub in Dewsbury, where they believe Mr Boycott is overdue a knighthood, said: "Though it is sad he is leaving us, I assume he will maintain the



Boycott will share the £400,000 house in Bournemouth with Anne Wyatt

resting his hat elsewhere." Mr Poulter's assumption is

safe. Only three things are said to make the stony-hearted Boycott go weak: his mother, his bat and his county. Last July, when testifying in the libel suit brought by the

Alan Lamb against Imran Khan, Mr Boycott, having given his Yorkshire address said: "That's in England."

George Carman, QC, one of the barristers in the case. asked him: "It hasn't declared independece yet?" Mr Boycott replied: "We like to think we're

would give added impetus to the church's pro-gay liberal wing if it goes through.

plunged the Church of Enghomosexuality last night when he called for the age of Harries said that out of the current house of bishops, Bishop Harries, chairman of the Church of England

hishops' group on homosex-uality, is backing proposals to lower the age of homosexual consent from 18 to 16. Bishop Harries, a leading adviser to his mind on the issue and is

consent. While other bishops back him privately, Bishop Harries is the first of the current diocesan bishops in the Church of England to speak out publicly in support of lowering the age of consent. His intervention comes as Parliament prepares to debate the issue next spring. A free vote will be allowed.

THE Bishop of Oxford, the Right Rev Richard Harries,

and into a new crisis over

homosexual consent to be

the Archbishop of Canterbury,

Dr George Carey, admitted last night that he had changed

lowered from 18 to 16.

Although the amendment is expected to be passed by the Commons, in the House of Lords, a more conservative body, support from the bench of bishops will be critical. On the last occasion the issue came up in Parliament, in 1994, most bishops voted for an age of homosexual consent

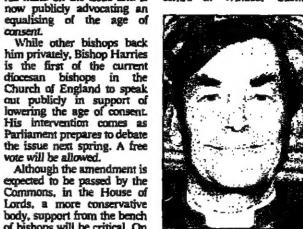
Three bishops voted that it should be lowered to 16 but only one of these, Dr David Jenkins of Durham, who is now retired, was from the Church of England. The other two were the Right Rev Richard Holloway, of the Scottish episcopal church, and the Right Rev Rowan Williams, bishop of Monnouth in the

Significantly, Bishop Williams is emerging as a favour-Roy Williamson in Southwark, an appointment which

that is what they were capable A spokesman for Bishop

Bishop Harries was the first bishop to take this line publicly. The fact that he is in charge of the bishops' group on homosexuality makes in highly significant, he said. Bishop Harries made his comments on Monday night

at a private meeting of Berskhire clergy from his diocese at St George's House, Windsor, a residential study centre at Windsor Castle



Bishop Harries said he had changed his mind

which has the Duke of Edinburgh as its vice-chairman. In an interview with The Times yesterday, Bishop Harries enlarged on his views. He said: "I do support the lowering of the age of consent for homosexuals to 16. The last time it came before Parliament, I supported an age of consent of is. I have changed my mind.

Before, I took the view that between the ages of 16 and 18 a person's sexuality was still fluid and unformed, and that given the chance-to develop heterosexual relationships if

But recent evidence from the European Court, the British Medical Association and elsewhere suggestes speople's sexuality is well formed by the age of 16. And even if there is

still a doubt about it, the idea of prosecuting people of 17 for having sex really is very Bishop Harries said he did not support homosexual marriages or blessings. But he also considered the controversial Clause 28, which prohibits local authorities from promot-

ing homosexuality, to be "di-

The bishops are expected to debate the issue at their next meeting in January. This will be shortly before the issue comes before Parliament. It is expected to come up as an amendment to the Crime and Disorder Bill, expected to be introduced by Jack Straw in the next few weeks. An amend-ment is likely to be tabled during the report stage of the Bill in the spring for the age of homosexual consent to be lowered to 16. The Government has announced it will

allow a free vote. Supporters are thought to include William Hague, who voted in favour of lowering the age of consent to 16 in 1994. Bishop Harries was con-

demned by evangelicals with-in the established church. which is facing a split over the issue more serious than that threatened by women priests. Already, one parish, Jesmond in Newcastle, has declared itself out of communion with its new diocesan bishop, the Right Rev Martin Wharton, because of his statement that homosexuality within a lov-ing, permanent relationship

As the church leadership liberal line, other parishes are expected to follow suit.

# French cricket for Benaud

By JOHN GOODBODY, SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

RICHIE BENAUD, the land, Scotland, Ireland, Denmuch-parodied cricket commentator and former Australian captain, has accepted an invitation to become the honorary patron of France Cricket, the new governing body of the sport across the Channel.

Benaud, 67, who has French ancestry and lives on the Riviera for six months of the year, said he was delighted to accept the post as titular benefactor of an organisation of 38 clubs and 800 players. I am looking forward to be able to attend some events next summer, and fit in with whatever the national committee thinks best for cricket in

France." The offer was made by Simon Hewitt, the captain of the French national team, which has won the European Federation Championship for the last two years, playing against all the continental countries - except for Eng-

mark and Holland. Hewitt said that he had heard from Ian Chappell, the former Australian captain, at the International Cricket Con-

ference meeting in Malaysia earlier this year that Benaud, who won 63 caps for Australia, had French ancestors. "When I went to the NatWest final at Lord's in September, I asked to meet Richie, and he provisionally accepted the offer," he said. On October 18, the French cricketers voted to secode from the French Baseball Federa-

tion and set up their own

organisation, France Cricket,

and Benaud's post as patron

was approved by acclamation Yesterday Benaud was on his way from Sydney to Brisbane to commentate on the Test match between Australia and New Zealand. He said that he would be happy to



Benaud: delighted with his new role

offer advice on coaching and development, particularly to some of the 200 Frenchmen now playing the game. Hewitt "We had to give him details of the current structure here before he

agreed to our offer."

team has to include at least seven people who hold French passports and three of them must have been born in the country. But Hewitt said: "We currently have at least five or six players who were born in this country representing the national team.

There is a great deal of curiosity about cricket here and quite a lot of coverage in newspapers and television, although we have to explain what it's about. We even have cricket on the curriculum of a school in Picardy. There are four or five French bowlers who are really good, and the French take naturally to fielding. Batting is not so easy."

France, who won a silver medal in cricket at the 1900 Olympics, will be taking part in the European championship in the Hague next year, when all the continental countries will be participating. England will send an amateur



# · Formula One tobacco ban stalls

By IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Government has reluctantly decided to abandon its plan to ban tobocco sponsorship of Formula One motor racing. Instead it will press the sport's governing body to introduce a voluntary code to reduce the level of advertising at racetracks worldwide.

Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, announced in June that the Government would ban all sports sponsorship by tobacco companies without exception as part of the drive to reduce smoking. However, after long negotiations with the Fédération International d'Automobile, Tessa Jowell, the Public Health Minister, has concluded that it would be counterproductive to bring in the ban for Formula One, which derives about £100 million a year from the tobacco

A ban has been included in the draft for the European Directive on controlling tobacco sponsorship, but yesterday Ms Jowell sent a letter to her opposite

would be best to exclude Formula One. British representatives at a meeting of member state officials explained that there was a danger that a ban would almost certainly result in the FIA moving all its races out of the EU to Eastern Europe and Asia, where tobacco advertising controls are much weaker.

The directive is due to be discussed by Ministers at a Council meeting in Brussels on December 4, but passing could be a priority for the British presidency of the EU during the first six months of next year.

"We think tobacco sponsorship can be phased out in other sports over a period, but it just won't work with Formula One," the Health Department said last night. The sport is worldwide and can move anywhere. With a ban we run the risk of driving Formula One to places where there is less of a tobacco-control regime. We can't stop television pictures coming

numbers in the EU advising them that it back from the Grand Prix and there is a very real risk of there being more tobacco exposure in the pictures. We are therefore seeking a total exemption for Formula One from the directive.

"We have been in close and urgent talks with the FIA and are looking for a tough voluntary code on a global scale, which will reduce advertising worldwide not just in Europe. This might include agreements on smaller logos or even doing away with some logos completely. We want to reduce the amount of tobacco visibility in the sport. The FIA is keen to co-operate and this therefore seems the best way of going about it.

"Ideally, we would like to ban sponsorship, but we are living in the real world and we are trying to find a solution to a unique problem in a unique sport."

The department said it had looked at technology that would make it possible to blot logos off television pictures, but had decided this would not work either.

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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 5 1997

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UNEXPECTED
WAY IMAGINABLE.
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#### Republican terrorist group may be planning new attack

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By Martin Fletcher CHIEF IRELAND

THE republican terrorist group responsible for Friday's failed bombing in Londonderry has gained access to Semtex and is expected to launch another attack before the senior security sources said last night.

The Continuity IRA, once dismissed as little more than a joke, appeared to be receiving assistance from a few rebel-lious IRA hardliners and now posed the single deadliest threat to the peace process, the sources said. They are reckoned to be a real threat and the security forces are acting ac-cordingly," one official said.

The Provisional IRA is worried about them and we are worried about them more and more worried about them," another said. With Republican Sinn Fein, widely regarded as Continuity IRA's political wing, holding its annual conference in Dublin this veekend, a further moraleboosting attack was "extremely likely if they can get it together", the second official added.

The sources said the Londonderry bomb, left in a government office building on the eve of Hillary Clinton's visit to Northern Ireland, consisted of 1.5lb of Semtex and two gallons of petrol and would have caused a massive explosion had the detonator not failed to ignite it. Merely farrying such a device through crowded streets was 'criminal in the extreme", an official said.

But equally alarming was the fact that Continuity IRA had, for the first time, used Semtex, previously possessed only by the IRA. Security sources agreed this probably came from an IRA stockpile and blamed hardliners op-

They are confident that the IRA leadership did not approve the transfer. IRA leaders viewed the development with alarm" because it en-

dangered the peace process. Continuity IRA dates from : Sinn Fein split in 1986, but became militarily active only after the IRA's 1995 ceasefire. bombed the Killyhevlin hotel in Fermanagh last year, and Markethill, Co Armagh, in September, and has mounted several unsuccessful attacks.

These have raised its profile at a time when there is significant opposition to the ceasefire among grassroots members of the IRA. As yet, security officials see no evidence of large-scale defections, but say there are worrying signs of a "fraying at the edges" in areas such as South Armagh and Londonderry.

# Culture clash over opera tours

Critics say the Smith plan would be bad for London

and would cost more money, reports Dalya Alberge

ONE of the Royal Opera House's most powerful benefactors expressed grave concern yesterday about the future of opera and ballet in London, after news that the English National Opera may have to share the Covent Garden home of the Royal

Opera and Royal Ballet. Lord Sainsbury, president of the Royal Opera House's appeal and chairman of the Royal Ballet governors, said: "It's a sad day that we have to go back to one opera house in London." The ROH's former head. Sir Jeremy Isaacs, and the financial controller of Opera North also criticised the proposals by Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary.

Lord Sainsbury was particularly anxious that ballet could be overshadowed by two opera companies, and that there could be a reduction in the number of dance performances. The idea of sending companies out on tour for two thirds of the year was "pie in the sky", he said. To say we'll get the companies touring is the most expensive thing you

London would be "the poor-er for it", he said. "It means fewer performances of the lyric arts. It puts London's

comparison with other main cities in a poor light. Paris has five theatres and Berlin has

"I'm very anxious that the sharing of performances means that, whilst there is no more opera than now, there is no less baller than now. The Royal Ballet should continue its share of half the evenings. If there's any diminishing in the opportunities for them to perform at the ROH, the governors will have to consider their position. It would affect support for the ballet if there's less ballet, whether from me or anyone else."

Lord Sainsbury blamed the ROH's problems on inadequate funding by the last Government, but acknowl-edged that the situation could not continue in its presen

Sir Jeremy described the plans as "tragic and catastrop-hic" and said that taking the companies on tour would dramatically increase spend-A week's tour to Manchester some years ago had cost the Royal Opera

These proposals are pa-lendy and self-evidently far more expensive than present state of affairs," he



Hogan, left, and Isaacs, who objects to spending

on the present level of funding - only if the funds were taken to a greatly enhanced level. Money should be applied to underpinning the viability of two exceptional companies instead of on rail fares, hotels, subsistence and landladies up

and down the country." Opera North's financial controller, David Hogan, said that its tours, with 130 people in three productions to five towns last spring, cost
E469,000. The box-office income was £265,000: "The
greatest cost is the principal
artists, closely followed by
subsistence. With a bigger company, their subsistence is going to be huge. The problem is that when you tour, you tour to small theatres.

"ENO and the RO's choruses are too large and they would never fit on the stages. They are used to larger stages. If they're only at Covent Garden for one-third of the year, they will need large choruses and orchestras in the home base but they wouldn't all be able to tour.

The prospect of two opera companies encroaching on their terrority is unnerving for the regional companies. Opera North covers the whole of the North of England. "Any eating into the area would be distructive for us," said Mr Hogan. Warren Smith, general

manager of the Grand Thearre in Leeds, saw the proposals as a "rethink" and said: The proof of the pudding is in the eating. When Opera North was established 18 years ago, people were very dubious. The fact was, it proved there is an audience. The question now is, how big can that audience get?"



# Concern over funding for hi-tech redesign

Opera House's redevelopment insisted yesterday that the £214 million scheme was running on time and within budget, and that it would be able to accommodate another company with ease. Insiders, however, expressed doubts because tens of millions of pounds had still to be raised.

Although Jeremy Dixon. the architect, said that everything was running to plan, observer said that fundraising has hit the buffers". The ROH has found itself trying to raise cash from the same potential donors as the Bankside Tate Gallery, day for seven days a week, Sadler's Wells and others. stripping out the lighting,

that the ROH would boast the most sophisticated technology of any British theatre, said John Seekings, development director. "We've had a Victorian opera house with Dickensifacilities. We've gone straight from 19th-century operations to 21st-century operations. We think it will make others in Europe green with

Working practices were also antiquated, although many have been negotiated. In the old house, said Mr Seekings, staff on shifts were required to work 24 hours a

in time for the next performance or rehearsal. Because everything was handled manually, loaded on and off lorries and from storerooms, there was the risk of damage. In the new house, a night crew will not be needed.

The mechanisation, including matorised hoists, wheeled platforms and carousels, has reduced the "turnaround time" from six hours to twoand-a-half hours. The main carousel, for example, will mean that for up to five productions can be stored

#### **NEWS IN BRIEF MP** faces

#### insurance and MoT charges

Ann Clwyd, the Labour MP for Cynon Valley, has been charged with driving without insurance after being stopped for allegedly driving through a red traffic light. The former member of the Shadow Cabinet is also charged with driv-ing without a valid MoT certificate and three other

motoring offences.

Mrs Clwyd, 60, was stopped in Cardiff in February. She did not appear before city magistrates. The case was adjourned until next month because of her "working commitments".

#### Porter case ends

The appeal by Dame Shirley Porter and others against a £31 million surcharge imposed for their role in the Westminster council "homes for votes" affair was unfair and procedurally flawed, her lawyers said at the end of a 23day hearing. The three High Court judges may delay their decision until after Christmas.

#### Fayed deal

A caretaker and assistant stalker on Mohamed Al Fayed's Balnagown Castle es-tate in the Highlands, who claims he was dismissed after taking his first day off work for two years, dropped his case for unfair dismissal. Matt Elliot, 56, reached a settlement believed to be for £4,500 the day before a tribunal hearing.

£155,000 for RSI A former bank clerk who will never work again because of

repetitive strain injury (RSI) has been awarded £155,000 in compensation by a London county court. Michelle Mulligan, 43, started suffering from the upper-limb disorder after her workload quadrupled at the Midland Bank in Gillingham, Kent, five years ago.

#### Birth award lost A woman who suffered seri-

ous health problems after the forceps delivery of her first child, weighing 11lb 20z, lost her £64,000 damages award. The Court of Appeal ruled that a consultant at Maidstone hospital had not been negligent in his treatment of Samantha Knight, 34, of Appledore, Kent.

#### Call me Kennedy

The violinist Nigel Kennedy is to drop the name "Nigel" for all future concerts, recordings and public appearances and wants to be known simply as Kennedy. The intention is to make people take him more seriously. His record com-pany, EMI Classics, said: "He wants to be positioned as a first-class violinist again."

# ENO fears a drastic cut in performances

BY DAMIAN WHITWORTH

National Opera may have to move into Covent Garden with the Royal Opera was greeted with dismay at the Coliseum, the company's cur-rent home. The greatest fear was that the number of performances would be drasti-

Staff, who learnt of Chris Smith's proposal in the press vesterday morning, were called to an emergency meeting at lunchtime, where they were briefed by Paul Daniel. the ENO's music director.

Members of the company said afterwards that the atmo-

sphere had been "remarkably chorus. "In this house they They said that they would cooperate with the review but warned that a move could destroy the unique "family of the company and its audience. At present the ENO stages at least 190 performances a year, which would almost certainly have to be substantially reduced if the

The ENO has always been a strong family company. The audience are extremely loyal and we do more performances than any other company in Britain," said David Dyer, a member of the

company had to share.

some places in the West End." Mr Dyer was sceptical about the suggestion that the ENO would give more performances outside the capital if it had to share a home. "We would love to tour more, but it's very expensive." He pointed out that excellent regional opera companies already

Helen Robertson-Barker, of the music staff, said job cuts were not mentioned at the meeting. Nobody said a word about jobs. Everybody just wants the identity of the company to be preserved."

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# Mob wanted to kill me, says crying WPC

A WPC broke down in tears in court yesterday as she escribed how she found herself alone among a crowd of youngsters who attacked her screaming: "kill her, kill her." Alison Mullins, who has been with the Metropolitan Police for almost 12 years, described how she was repeatedly punched and had her hair pulled by the group.
As tears streamed down the

her officer's face, Judge George Bathurst Norman allowed her a few minutes to compose herself. She had to be given a glass of water and a seat by the court usher, but refused an offer from the

The officer told Southwark Crown Court that she was alone in a police van driving through Frith Street, Soho, central London, in the early hours of March II this year when she was confronted with a crowd standing in the middle of the road.

She said: "I tooted my horn to get them to move out of the way and they all started



Accused: Paul Cooperand Deborah Gross were abusive and violent, court was told

were approximately 20 in the group. I began to move through them and as I did I noticed a white male I now know to be Paul Cooper with a

"As I passed them I checked my rear wing mirror and saw Mr Cooper kick the bumper of the van. " She got out of the van to question him and he became abusive, shouting and

Smelling alcohol on his breath she arrested him but as she did so others in the group tried to pull him away from her, a jury heard. She added:

go of Mr Cooper. WPC Mullins added "The

female was constantly grab-bing at my hair and pulling and screaming abuse at me. It was all swearing, just a harrage. I was then bundled across the road and slammed into a window.

The officer said she was held in a bear hug and repeatedly punched in the chest despite her ordering the revellers to "get off me."

She was finally rescued by

fellow officers. She added: "Afterwards I went and sat at the back of a police van. I felt sick and very shocked." The court heard she suffered a number of injuries and had to take time off from work. Deborah Gross, 18 unem-

ployed, of Guildford, Surrey;

Nigel Soole, 24, a cellar supervisor, of Balham, south west London: Stephen Yarmun, 24, an order processor, of Ashford, Middlesex, Paul Cooper, 24, a software production assistant, of Byfleet Road, Cobham, Surrey, and Jack Ashtead, Surrey, all deny violent disorder and affray.



Alison Mullins: told court that she was attacked by screaming crowd

in the same age group.

# Multiple births rising with test-tube successes

By IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

es is rising rapidly, with births, official figures showed

There have been more than 21,000 live births in Britain using the methods pioneered in Cambridge in 1978. A quarter of the total have been born in the past two years, and more than 13 woman a day are now giving birth after fertility treatment, as an increasing number of couples take advantage of improved techniques.

The multiple birth rate from test-tube pregnancies is higher than ever, according to figures published in the annual report and Embryology Authority. In the past 15 months there were 1,774 were twins, triplets or

The stillbirth and neonatal death rate for a triplet pregnancy, with one or more babies dying, is 82,6 per 1,000 births, compared to just eight per 1,000 for single

pregnancies.
Ruth Deech, the authority chairman, said: "Multiple births can be the source of much stress and amdety for parents. There is a greater risk of complications or even miscarriage, as well as long-term disability, and these can cause considerable emotional and financial pressure.

People undergoing IVF

woman has a better chance of becoming pregnant if transferred.

"I arrested him for being

drunk and disorderly. I mok

hold of his arm and as I did so

a female with him started pulling at Mr Cooper and

shouting abuse at me. She was

trying to pull him away. I was

on my own and asked for

some assistance via the radio."

don, a university student, tried

to grab her baton, she said.

"He started pulling at my

elbow and arm, shouting 'Get

the stick! Kill Her, Kill Her! "

she said. "All the others

started shouting this and other abuse." She said that despite

During the attack Jack Gor-

With one embryo, the pregancy rate is 8.4 per cent and the live birth rate 6.8 per cent. With three embryos, the pregnancy rate rises to 26 per cent with 21.4 per cent live births. Overall, 18.5 per cent of IVF patients become pregnant, and 15 per cent have live

The authority is still making up its mind about the question expenses for egg and sperm donors, after controversy about payments for surrogate mothers. Patient groups, clinare being consulted to decide

# University hit by meningitis considers inoculation for all

By PETER FOSTER

SOUTHAMPTON University may introduce routine menin gitis vaccinations for all firstyear students, after two outbreaks of the disease on British campuses in the past year, it emerged yesterday.
Three Southampton stu-

dents have died in the past month. Howard Newby, the Vice-Chancellor, said: "We are actively considering what steps to take to reassure parents and students and protect them against this disease. We shall seek expert medical advice and, if that means vaccinating all students, then that is what we will do."

Yesterday the National Union

to die from meningitis at Southampton University. Mellissa Irvine, 19, who had been studying music and mathematics. had been at the university less than three weeks when she was struck by the disease. Her parents, Gordon and Gill from Ruislip, West London, attended the service at St Mary's, South Stoneham, Southampton; a student band, the Jazzmanies, which Mellissa had joined, also performed.

of Students called for a broad medical debate. "This is not something vice-chancellors can make an instant decision on. We must find out if inoculation is the most effective way of fighting the disease," a spokesman said.

The Meningitis Research Poundation says the disease is tioned yesterday by scientists who monitor meningitis. Norman Begg, chairman of the

Meningeococcus Working Group, which reports to the Government, said the risk of catching meningitis remained extremely small and the current policy was adequate. He said: "While there is twice as vulnerable as others evidence that first-year under-The prospect of vaccinating all Southampton students on arrival next year comes after

immunisation of 1,200 stu-

The effectiveness of routine

mass vaccination was ques-

dents last week.

graduates have a slightly increased risk this does not mean that routine vaccinathe university was accused by some students of reacting too tions would necessarily save lives. The vaccine does not slowly to the crisis. On Monoffer full protection and takes day it introduced a mass vac-

#### **Brothers** are jailed for £30m alcohol fraud

By STEWART TENDLER CRIME CORRESPONDENT

TWO brothers who flooded London and the Home Counties with cheap alcohol in a £30 million excise fraud were jailed for 312 years yesterday and ordered to pay £1 million

Kulwant Hare, 42, and his brother. Sohan. 49, both of Loughton, Essex, each pleaded guilty at Southwark Crown Court to four charges of fraudulently evading excise duty.

Lorryloads of beer and whisky were taken from dutyfree warehouses astensibly for export, but then sold cheaply to a network of shops and offlicences. A case of 12 bottles of whisky was sold for £70 instead of at least £120.

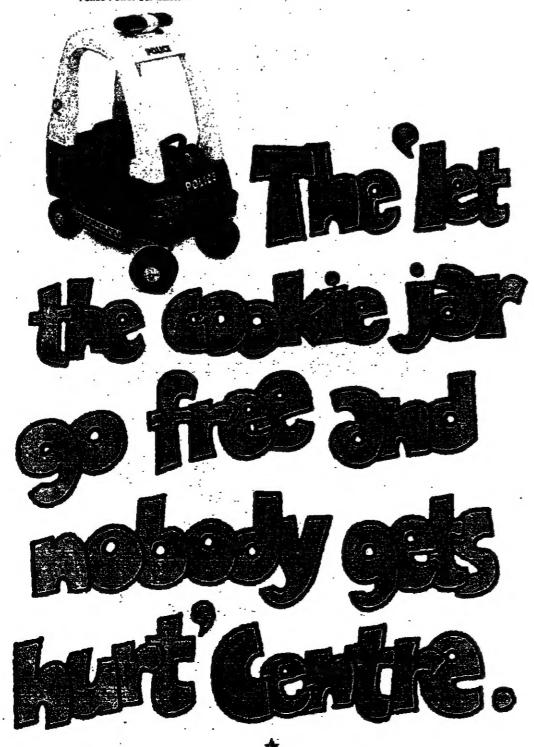
At an earlier hearing, another brother, Aviar, 37, a struck-off barrister who became an expert on customs law, was jailed for 5½ years as the alleged mastermind of the fraud. Yesterday his brothers were ordered to pay the £1 million each or have a further five years added to their sentences. Avtar already has an order against him for the same

His brothers claimed that the fraud was committed to save the family business, but Judge Jeffrey Rucker told them: "This was a fraud on a massive scale, and on the public at large. It made you large profits and you were perfectly happy to reap the benefits for the survival of the family business and to fill its

The brothers helped to run cash-and-carry warehouses which sold wine, beer and spirits at such low prices that they upset other traders, wholesalers and manufacturers. According to Kulwant Hare's barrister, he made £3 million from his part in the

Richard Sutton, QC, for the prosecution, told the court that front companies had been set up to provide a distance between the goods being bought and the eventual destination. Shipments were made to warehouses across Britain and then shipped back to the

Police Patrol Car \$29.99





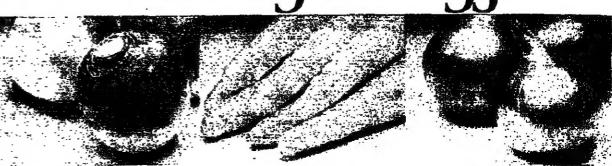
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THE Labour backbencher Michael Foster vowed yesterday to press on with his attempt to ban foxhunting despite the Government's announcement that it will not allow time for his Private Member's Bill

Mr Foster, the MP for Worcester, who published his draft Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill yesterday, is determined to ensure a big majority at its second reading on Novem-ber 28. He and other MPs who support a hunting ban argue that a convincing majority could still persuade business managers to allow the Bill to have its third reading and go to

"It will have been decided on a free vote and it will carry a certain moral mandate." Mr Foster said.

The Bill provides for maximum penalties of £5,000 fines and up to six months' imprisonment for huntsmen who flout the law, or those who allow

hunting on their land.

There is growing pressure on the Government to include an anti-hunting Bill in the next Queen's Speech. Some Labour MPs fear a public back-lash against the Govern-ment's refusal to support

# Hamilton finds unlikely ally in Martin Bell

ister Neil Hamilton has recruited an unlikely champion in his fight to clear his name. Martin Bell, the anti-sleave campaigner who beat him in Tatton, has agreed to take up

Mr Hamilton, whose threats of legal action threatelection campaign, had a private meeting with his succes-sor in the House of Commons on Monday. The unexpected meeting came on the eve of the Standards and Privileges er the verdict of Sir Gordon Downey, the Parliamentary Commissioner, that there was "compelling evidence" that Mr Hamilton took cash in brown envelopes from Mohamed Al Fayed, the own-

er of Harrods. Mr Hamilton has had little contact with Mr Bell since their famous encounter on Knutsford Heath in the election campaign, when his re-doubtable wife. Christine, berated the former BBC foreign correspondent for hounding an innocent man. But it was all smiles at Monday's meeting in the Commons at the office of the new MP for Tatton which, until May I. was the domain of Mr HamilThe former

Tatton MP has

turned to his old enemy for

help, writes **Andrew Pierce** 

Mr Bell, who stood in the election wearing his trade-mark white suit, said: "I am morally bound, if Neil Hamilton has concerns, to try to do everything I can to help him. It is not as if I represent all my constituents with the exception of the former MP.

We talked for 45 minutes. It was prefectly convivial with not a harsh word expressed. I made clear no view on the rights or wrongs of the com-

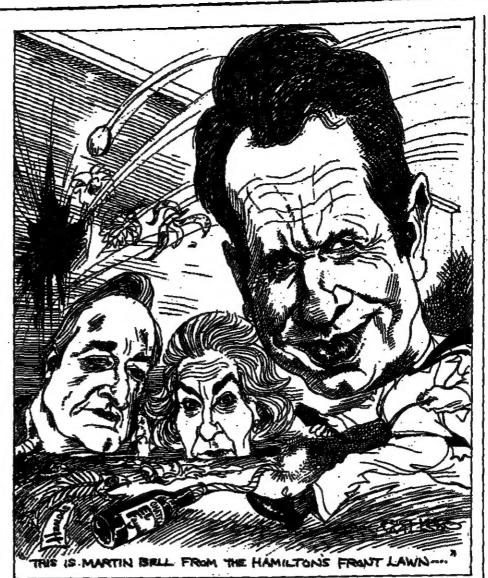
Mr Hamilton sought Mr Bell's help in seeking to persuade the committee to crossexamine Mr Al Fayed and his employees over their allegations that they paid the former trade minister up to £25,000 during the 1980s.

and his letter was delivered only minutes before the final deliberations began. Mr Bell said: "As his MP I will continue to represent his best interests. We had a polite meeting. He asked for my help and I will give it to him."

Mrs Hamilton, a constant feature by her husband's side, was conspicuous by her ab-sence from the Commons meeting. Mr Bell had a kind word for her too. "I have put in an order for her book, about battleaxes of our time, and will hope to get a signed copy," he

After six hours the committee had failed to reach the required unanimous verdict on Sir Gordon's investigation, which was the firswt big test of the self-regulation of Parliament. When its deliberations on Mr Hamilton are completed Mr Beil is expected to become a member. Two Tory members, Quen-

un Davies (Grantham and Stamford) and Ann Widdecombe (Maidstone and the Weald) refused to back last week's committee decision not to call Mr Al Fayed, the chief accuser, for cross-examination. They nmaintained the same position yesterday in defiance of the rest of the



the committee not to be swayed by the implicit threat that a less than unanimous endorsement of Sir Gordon's report would make his postion untenable. The traditional cross-party co-operation on select committees appeared to be breaking down last night. One Labour MP said: "If we had our way we would have

found Hamilton guilty in ten

Mr Hamilton urged the committee not to "shelter" Sir Gordon. "To do nothing will merely confirm the contempt in which Parliament is widely held," the former MP said.

Mr Davies and Miss

forensic cross-examination of David Willetts, the former Paymaster General, spelt the end of his ministerial career in the last Parliament during a related cash for question: investigation. Miss decombe famously demolished the former Home Secretary Michael Howard's

Labour rebels facing long bans

CHIEF POLITICAL

FOUR rebel Labour Euro MPs who refused to be gagged by the party face suspensions of up to a year after an appeal hearing in Brussels yesterday. The panel recommended that Hugh Kerr and Ken Coates should be thrown out of the European Parliamentary Labour Party and lose their privileges for twelve months. The other two. Alex Falconer and Michael Hindley, will be suspended for six months if all 62 Labour MEPs uphold the recommendations later this

The so-called Strasbourg Four were suspended last month after refusing to sign Labour's Code of Practice which prohibited them from talking to the press about proposed changes in the electoral system for the 1999 elections to the European Parliament.

Yesterday's special hearing by a five-strong panel of Labour MEPs, was set up to give the rebels the opportunity in defend themselves. But Mr Kerr and Mr Coates refused to attend, describing the meeting as "a trial after the sentence". All 61 British Labour MEPs were sent the code, but the four rebels refused to sign. claiming that that the proposed new party list system would remove old Labour MEPs in favour of Blairite

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# Ministers facing first. test of scrutiny pledge

THE Government now faces the first real test of its often repeated commitment to strengthen the role of Parliament in scrutinising decisions. Gordon Brown's proposals to make the Bank of England responsible for setting interest argely a financial matter, of nterest mainly to the City. But they are of as much constitutional importance as other higher profile measures, such as devolution, since they involve a fundamental shift in he way that key economic lecisions are taken.

The Bill, due to receive its Commons second reading next Tuesday, is very execu-tive-minded. The Chancellor will nominate the members of the new monetary policy com-mittee and will decide the inflation rarget. The commitsee will be accountable to him for this remit. Any changes in policy and interest rates will be reported to the Chancellor and publicly announced at a televised news conference. The Governor will also have to answer to the Chancellor for my significant deviation from the inflation target. These proposals are desirable and should ensure much greater openness in decision-making. notably via the publication of the minutes of the committee. But none of these changes directly involves Parliament.

Treasury ministers have made a lot of enhancing. egular reports to, and ques-

#### ON POLITICS

tioning by, the Treasury Committee. The Bank's annual report will, for instance, be laid before Parliament. But the proposals make little difference to Parliament's role. The Treasury Committee already questions the Governor and other senior Bank officials at least twice a year, as frequently as is now proposed.

Of course, accountability is an elusive concept. While greater openness is welcome, the reformed Bank will be only truly accountable to the Chancellor since he appoints the monetary policy commit-tee and fixes its objectives. But there is an opportunity for a much stronger definition that directly involves Parliament.

That is recognised by the Treasury Committee in its new report on Accountability of the Bank of England. The MPs have made sensible suggestions about how both the setting of the target and its implementation should be regularly scrutinised to ensure greater clarity in such important decisions. But the most important proposal is that the Treasury Committee should have a statutory say in confirming nominations to the post of Governor, deputy Governor and members of the monetary policy committee and be able to report to the

House of Commons stating its

the criteria of competence and personal independence and recommending that the appointment be not confirmed".

This would be an important check on the-traditional prerogative powers of the executive to make appointments without involving Parliament. However, Ann Taylor, Leader of the Commons, has already talked about ratification of major appointments by select Some commentators have

suggested this is going too far, and risks politicising appointments. But the right of nomination would still lie with the Chancellor, while the confirmation process could be tightly defined. Conferring such a right on the Commons along with approval of the inflation target - is crucial to ensuring that the reformed Bank is accountable to Parliament. There is a danger that the Treasury will try to tob off MPs with the alternative idea that they should have the right to question new members of the monetary policy commit-tee after they have been ap-pointed. But that is an empty gesture. Alistair Darling, the Chief Secretary, should re-move any doubts, and accept the Treasury Committee's proposals on confirmation as an amendment to the Bill, when he gives evidence to the MPs this afternoon.

PETER RIDDELL

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ON POLITICS

# Parents win right to school of first choice

John O'Leary reports on a ruling

that could open the floodgates

A GROUP of children whose parents waged a year-long legal battle to secure places at a local comprehensive celebrated victory yesterday in a case which may open the way for thousands of others to demand their first choice of

The seven children, aged II
and I2 attended lessons at Old
Hall School in Kimberworth,
Rotherham Rotherham, yesterday after almost two months of home tuition. Their local authority had refused them a place even after the High Court ruled that its action was unlawful.

Rotherham council insisted in that the school was full and that the seven pupils lived

Their parents refused to accept defeat and clubbed together to seek legal advice.

The parents bought all the children school uniforms and textbooks and paid £120 a week for private tuition in mathematics, English and French. They took them to Old Hall in uniform every day to sign an attendance register before being turned away from the school.

When leave was granted to challenge the council's decision in the High Court last month, Mr Justice Collins backed the parents and ruled that the admissions policy was unlawful. He said that the catchment area policy negated



The seven pupils returning to Old Hall School in Kimberworth yesterday after Mr Justice Collins ruled that the council's admissions policy had been unlawful

where to send their children. because the school was already full before they were allowed to express their

The authority relented only after the threat of an action for contempt of court. A council spokesman said: "After fur-

teacher, the education director has concluded that the admission of the seven children would not at this time be further prejudicial to the provision of efficient education at Old Hall,"

Bill Bainbridge, the head teacher, said: "I'm pleased the children have not been in school for 72 weeks and have of our children and parents can rest assured we will be a lot of work to catch up." working hard to make sure Mr Bainbridge said that the they are not disadvantaged in new entrants would put pres-

any way."

The parents have always argued that Old Hall was the sure on existing classes, which already had 30 pupils, leaving nearest and best school to little capacity for any families their homes in the West Hill moving into the catchment

"I'm really looking forward to meeting all my friends who ! Manderson, whose daughter Kerry was among the children was with for seven years at affected, said: "We live only primary school. 120 metres from the catchment boundary and other kids are

going through the school

"We've had lessons at home so I'm not too worried about being behind the others. I bussed in from miles away. The admissions policy just can't wait to go in." doesn't make sense," Before

# Council rejects official plan to save education

AN EDUCATION authority that ministers have labelled the worst in Britain yesterday set itself on a collision course with the Government by rejecting emergency improve-

ment plans.
The chief officers of Hackmey Council, East London.
The dismissed the advice of a
government-appointed "improvement team" as "fifthin rate management oppor-

Their stance angered Ste-Jards Minister, but his office yesterday admitted that it was veriess to force-the council to comply ahead of planned

legislation next July.

Hackney, described by inspectors in September as out of control, has seven failing schools and has been unable "16" to recruit an education officer 50 for more than a year. The improvement team, invited in under pressure from the Gova a ernment, wants the post upgraded and four more senior education posts created by November 13, so they can be filled by Christmas.



Byers: cannot force council to comply yet

chief executive, advised councillors to throw out the plan at their education committee meeting tonight and give his own new management structure time to work. He said further changes would cost at least £200,000.

"We had a system that failed which is why we have put the new structure in place," Mr Elliston said. The improvement team's proposals will do absolutely nothing to benefit Hackney's children."

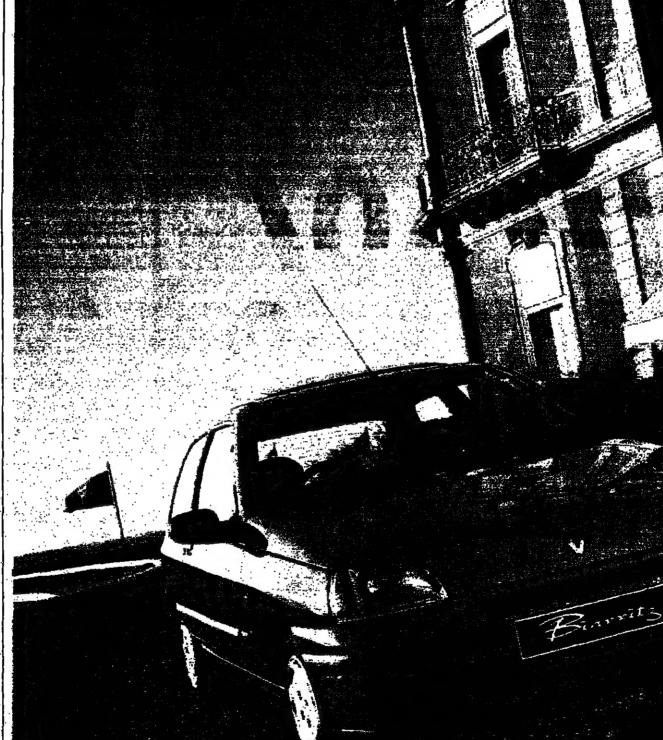
Mr Byers orged the councillors to defy Mr Elliston. The time has come for the children of Hackney Byers said.

The improvement team report concerns a lack of leader councillors in Hackney to get behind the need for proper leadership in the borough's education service."

The Department for Educa-tion and Employment said there was no prospect of emergency legislation. The Education White Paper, expected to become law in July, would give the Government powers of intervention into local education authorities.

The four-strong improve-ment team was led by Richard Painter, the chairman of ADT, who led the "hit squad" that closed Britain's worst school, Hackney Downs, last year.
Mr Painter has angered Hackney councillors by refusing to antend their meeting tonight.

The final decision is likely to be taken by the full council on November 13, when the 24 Official Labour members are likely to support the proposals. However, they are expect-ed to face opposition from the 12 Conservatives, ten Liberal Democrats and 13 members of Hackney New Labour, a breakaway faction expelled from the national party.



Drug-taking 'part of modern life'

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

the hallmark of rebels, losers and couch potatoes but part of the consumer lifestyle enjoyed

by young people, according to a report published today.

Most people aged 16-24 using drugs recreationally are sociable and sensible rather than deviant, the report says. It condemns conventional images of drug users and says they are highly knowledgeable about the substances they take and the role they play in their

Drug-takers are no less moral than young people in general, the report, The Substance of Youth, published by the Joseph Rowntree Trust, says. "Most recreational drug-taking takes place as part of a

CORRECTION

Mr Q. S. Anisuddin (letter, yesterday) is a former vice-chairman of the UK Immigrants Advisory Service, not the UK Immigration Service.

DRUG-TAKING is no longer consumer lifestyle, not a deviant one."

The report says there is no overall drug culture in the UK and highlights differences across the country. In Wythenshawe, Manchester, taking drugs is a sign of conformity rather than rebellion while in fashionable circles of London and other

major cities, drug-taking may be about innovation in style. The study by the independent think-tank Demos warns the Government that it will make no progress in tackling drugs effectively until the conventional image of drug-tak-ers is dispelled and says any battle" against drugs will fail.

One of the authors of the report warned the Government of the danger of allowing Keith Hellawell, its new Anti-Drugs Co-ordinator, to be portrayed as someone at war with youth culture. Mr Hellawell welcomed the report as providing a further insight into the complexities of

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MARKS & SPENCER is to open 25 small-scale food stores in city centres as part of an aggressive expansion plan which will create up to 5,000 jobs and bring it into direct competition with Tesco's high-

street Metro stores.
The company, which for the past ten years has seen its growth led by out-of-town superstores, will almost double the number of small-scale shops within the next three years in the E2.1 billion expan-

Like Tesco, it has 35 food stores which open late to catch people doing top-up shopping on the way home. The store are normally about 12,000 so ft, are 95 per cent dedicated to food, and located in city centres rather than residential

The competition will be most direct in Covent Garden. Central London, where Tesco opened its first Metro store eight years ago. M&S intends to move in next year, targeting the same market.

A Tesco spokeswoman said the company had been unaware of M&S's expansion plans, in which local stores will become the fastest-grow-ing part of its business. M&S insisted that it was not changing its formula, and would open new out-of-town stores with the same enthusiasm.

In total, it is likely to add a further 60 stores to its 286 current outlets. Sir Richard Greenbury, the chairman, said it expected to create between 4,500 and 5,000 jobs over three years. After extensions to existing stores, its overall trading space will rise

The showpiece of the expansion will be a 200,000 sq ft store in Manchester, which will be its largest shop in the world, replacing two temporary sites it has used since its main store in the city was closed by an IRA bomb.

The company started life as a market clothing stall in Leeds when Michael Marks, a ness with Tom Spencer, a local cashier, in 1894.

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# 'Food deserts' threaten health of poor and old

Minister is to tackle shortage of fresh food deserts" threatening the produce for those stuck in inner cities health of the poor and elderly. says the Government. Now and villages, writes Valerie Elliott to improve nutrition levels.

> co-operatives; encouraging su-permarkets over home delivment and retailers; and examining the prospects for tele-shopping on the Internet at community centres.

More and more households

are without easy access to

shops selling fresh food. In the cities, "food deserts" are

found in areas where a fall in

population has pitched local

shops into decline and a

doomed struggle against su-permarkets. Only corner

shops remain, selling a limited

scale of the problem are

examining a range of policy

options to limit the damage to

nealth, including a review of

planning rules to attract

retailers to deprived urban

areas, outlying housing es-

FRESH food can be scarce

in the remote countryside. In Devon the Soil Associ-

ation has set up food deliveries for the poor.

elderly and housebound

where village shops have

closed and transport is

truit and vegetables from

ten organic farms for deliv-

ery directly to the door or

to a collection point. Some

farms will include fresh

The projects help people

in villages and farms near

Barnstaple and Bideford.

around Princetown on

Totnes and Kingsbridge in

nected with failure to cat a

nutritions diet. Isolation

Dartmoor,

People can order fresh

Tessa Jowell, Minister for and overpriced range of pack-Public Health, said: "Food deserts are a real problem and In the country, the closure of hundreds of village shops and they give rise to other conditions. If you can't get the right food, people eat fast food and poor public transport has left people without cars facing enormous difficulties. The convenience food and often they may be chronically defiproblem is worst for the elderly, the housebound and cient in essential nutrients." the poor. Ministers alarmed by the

Ms Jowell said the issues would be addressed in the consultative Green Paper Our Healthier Nation, to be published before Christmas.

Department of Health officials are also to start mapping the food deserts throughout the country. While most are expected to be inner-city pockets, some market towns and

also brings high levels of

In the fenlands south of

Downham Market and

Swaffham in Norfolk, the

health authority is setting

up centres for producers to

sell their goods, and en-couraging people to grow

Many villages have lost their shops, and it is diffi-cult to keep food fresh between weekly shopping

keep food diaries. Many

relied largely on conve-

did not know how to cook

fresh ingredients. A coll-

ery courses and produced

a book of economical, nu-

Many young mothers

trips to town.

nience foods.

outlying rural villages and hamlets will also be included. Food deserts are likely to be one of the first issues to be examined by the social exclu-sion unit in the Cabinet office. The differences between food is also expected to be exam-

ined by the proposed new

Food Standards Agency.

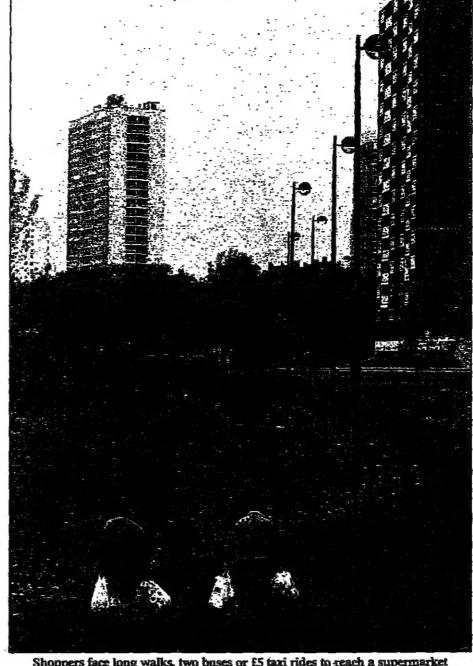
Miss Jowell is to meet big retailers shortly to discuss the problems and to look at the ships with them. She is impressed by schemes such as the one run by Tesco, which has an arrangement with councils in Ealing, West London, and Leeds to deliver food to the elderly, infirm and housebound. It also runs 100 free buses to their supermarkets at a cost of £3 million a

Miss Jowell wants health authorities and local councils to consider nutrition when they draw up health action could be a role for the proposed new healthy-living centres in helping certain groups of the population to have

access to good food.

Miss Jowell accepted the need to strike a balance between local shops and supermarkets: "On the one hand you don't want to drive corner shops out of business, but it is vitally important for people to have access to fresh food. We are enormously concerned about the effect on public

There is no point people knowing how to eat in a healthy way if they physically cannot get to a shop with the fresh food. Virtually every major illness is related to social class and we really need to ensure that good eating hood. We know that coronary heart disease, or predisposition to it, for example, needs to



Shoppers face long walks, two buses or £5 taxi rides to reach a supermarket

# Where fresh fruit and veg are a two-mile walk away

WEST EVERTON, one in-ner-city area identified as a food desert, has seen massive depopulation in recent years. Sixty-five per cent of inhabitants have moved away since

did set up is now a bingo hall. For a population of 6,000 there is one general store, but people have to travel, and usually walk, nearly two

no adult in work and 86 per cent of residents do not have access to a car - one of the lowest levels of car ownership in Europe.

There are bus services, but most do not link directly to the supermarkets and people often have to change twice to reach a large store offering a full range of fresh produce. Two of the nearest stores concentrate on freezer prod-

Everton also has a standard mortality rate higher than any other part of Liverpool. The a standard index would be 100. Most deaths are caused by stroke, cancer or heart

Save the Children Fund has set up a programme in the area to help children. Clare Mahoney, the project's co-

#### Pensioner jailed over birds that flocked to her garden

ensuli

A PENSIONER has been jailed for three months for feeding birds and animals in

her garden.
Barbara Simpson, 60, was committed to prison for flouring council injunctions not to put out food on her 24 sq ft bird table. She was appearing at Winchester Crown Court for the fifth time this year since Weymouth and Portland Borough Council was granted the injunction. Mrs Simpson, of Preston, Dorset, admitted breaking the injunction more than 20 times.

Purvaise Punwar, for Mrs Simpson, said: "The reason she broke the order was quite simply, try as she might, she couldn't bear to see the birds she has grown to love over the years starve."
He said that Mrs Simpson

had no children and very few interests in life apart from caring for birds and animals. Mr Punwar said that Mrs Simpson had previously been spending £150 a week on bird food. But since the final order she had been spending only E32 a week — principally for her 30 white fan-tailed doves. The council had sought the

court order after neighbours complained that thousands of rooks, pigeons and starlings would gather in nearby trees. waking them at 5am. They also claimed that the birds soiled their washing and windows and that leftover food

times the bird food in Mrs Simpson's garden and on the verge outside had been a foot high. Mrs Simpson had claimed that local council photographs of piles of food were faked and her neighbours had lied in evidence.

Mr Punwar said the court should seek a long-term solution to the problem and allow Mrs Simpson to undergo psychiatric treatment and per-haps fine her for the breaches.

Sentencing her, Judge Rog-er Titheridge said: "It is a sad duty I have to perform on a 60year-old woman with an un-blemished character. But she

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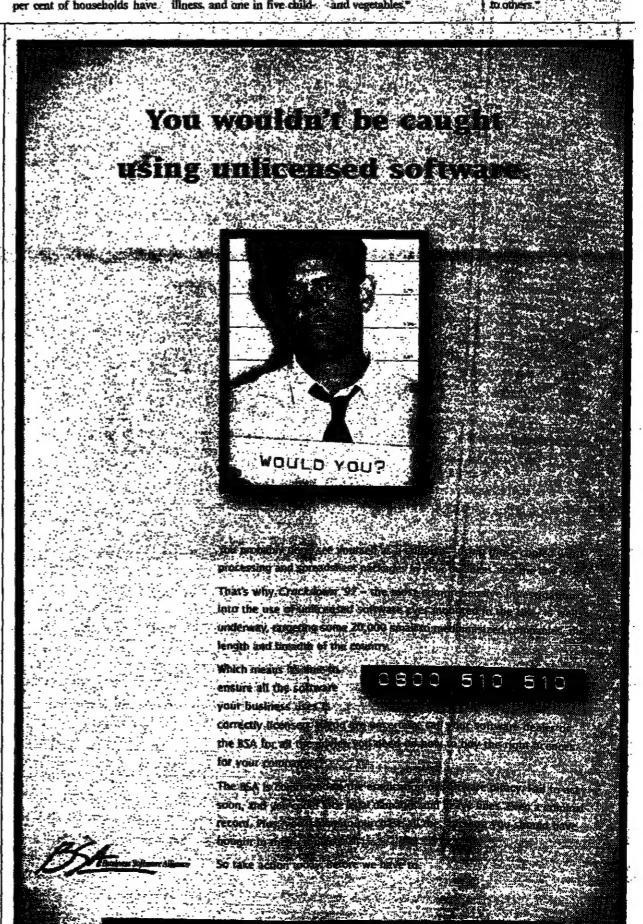
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# EU to make firms consult workers on business plans

THE European Commission will prepare the way today for a new law under the social chapter that would require all but the smallest firms to consult their employees on future policy and would render void any sackings without such action.

The move, which would greatly extend an existing law that covers large multinational companies, is aimed at bringing Britain and Ireland into line with continental practice which requires firms to operate works councils.

The Government has criticised the idea as an unnecessary burden on business but, under the social chapter, which Britain is joining in the Treaty of Amsterdam, any opposition could be overruled by a majority vote.

The Commission's decision comes as ministers meet in Brussels today to prepare for the European Union "jobs summit" later this month at which Britain will press for easing the burden of regulations on employers. Tony Blair has been urging EU leaders to refrain from using the social chapter to pass new laws that could inflict more red tape on

Britain has already signed up to laws on parental leave, the rights of part-time workers and shifting the burden of proof in sexual discrimination cases. The proposed law on consultation will test the Government's commitment to improved workers' rights against the potentially conflicting drive for more flexible labour regulation.

Under the rules of the social chapter, the Commission will give EU employers' organisations and unions six weeks to decide whether to negotiate their own version of a consultation law. Failing this, Padraig Flynn, the Social Afmit a draft law for the member . In an initial discussion this

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New law under

social chapter would require

agreement on : sackings, writes

Charles Bremner

summer, employers resisted the scheme and unions favoured it. Two pieces of legislation have already been enacted through agreement between the social partners, as the employers and unions are

British officials said yesterday that Government fathe best route for drafting the proposed consultation law. However, when the idea was first mooted last June, Downing Street said: "We are not in favour of new regula-

The legislation is intended to curb "social dumping", in which "companies shop around for places that have low requirements in industrial relations", an EU official said. Britain, with its low employ-



Flynn: will submit a

Continent to be the worst

A commission document released today says the proposed law would provide equal treat-ment for all workers across the EU no avoid discrimination and to ensure greater compatibility between national provi-

it must enshrine "the right of workers to be informed and consulted ... on the economic situation and the future outlook of the company and on any decisions likely to affect

This is intended to benefit

workers and companies by improving morale and helping staff to adapt to rapidly changing conditions. Mr Flynn wants the law to

have teeth in the form of flout the legal obligation to Public pressure on the Com-

mission for such action has come from highly publicised cases of factory closure, notably a decision by the vehicle manufacturer Renault to sack 2,000 workers at its plant in Brussels earlier this year.

The main proposed penalty would be to annul dismissal notices or any other decisions affecting the conditions of employment. The Commission is not for-

mally setting the size of company that will come under the law, but Mr Flynn has cited a minimum of 50 employees as a desirable target.
Under the existing multina-

tional law, which is deemed by many British companies to have been beneficial, only firms employing at least 2,000 workers in two or more member states are required to set up works councils.

The Commission insists that the new scheme should allow for a less formal structure than works councils.

George Soros, page 22 Letters, page 23



Tony Blair accepting a poppy from his wife, Cherie, yesterday. The Royal British Legion delivers a supply of poppies every year to 10 Downing Street, for use by visitors and staff, and the Prime Minister traditionally buys the first one

# MPs' insults undermine all politicians, Nolan warns

WHITEHALL ROTTOR

MPs are helping to reduce confidence in politicians by constantly insulting each oth-er, Lord Nolan, the public standards watchdog, will say tonight in a warning on the

dangers of cynicism.

Delivering the Richard Dimbleby Lecture, to be televised on BBCl, he is also expected to criticise members of the public who accept and enjoy any bad thing they hear about others, and blames the press for its part in promoting

the growth of cynicism. While he accepts that the exchanges of insults by politicians is part of the democratic process, he believes that "constant and sometimes irresponsible blackguarding of each other, especially at election times" is partly to blame for declining public confidence in those in public life: "When they accuse each other of dishonesty the public can be forgiven if they take the accusations at face value. After all, the politicians should know."

He staunchly defends a free press, however, and the contribution that newspapers had made to expose wrongdoing. Newspaper editors do not share the public's low opinion of politicians, he points out.

Lord Nolan, who steps down as the chairman of the Committee on Standards in Public Life this week, will stress that the public perception of sleaze runs far ahead of the reality, but he believes the jury is still out on Parliament's self-regulatory role and the success of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, Sir Gordon Downey.

He will point out that the House of Commons itself made its own rules for the procedures of the new Commissioner, and will make clear that the issues will be reconsidered by the committee under its new chairman, Sir



Nolan: spoke about the dangers of cynicism

Patrick Neill, OC. Lord Nolan hopes that the committee will be given a role in monitoring the constitutional changes such as the Scottish parliament, the Welsh assembly, the Greater London authority and reform of the House of Lords.

He will also highlight the need for tougher procedures on whistle-blowing in public life, and emphasise that democracy works in Britain because its actions are monitored by independent instituunderpinned by the integrity and political neutrality of the Civil Service, the judges, the Armed Forces and police."

Members of all these institutions must be prepared to protest against the misuse of power, he believes. While judges were well-placed for this, because they have job security, he recognises that it takes more courage for junior officials or junior police officers to speak up against perceived improper behaviour of their superiors.

"Yet, without their willingness to do so, possibly at great expense to the wellbeing of themselves and their families, great wrongs may be perpetrated and undetected."

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# TV cartoons 'draw children away from life'

**Carol Midgley** reports on alert by TV watchdogs that animation glut is failing

CHILDREN are being starved of quality television because of a massive increase in the use of cartoons, broadcasting watchdogs said yester-day. The result is that an entire generation may be missing opportunities to de-velop critical abilities and

young minds

wider interests. The Broadcasting Stan-dards Commission said that shows such as Play School and Playdays were becoming the dinosaurs of children's programming, as BBC and ITV increasingly sought the cheaper option of imported animations for a ratings war with cable and satellite

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On BBC1, cartoons formed 35 per cent of children's output last year, compared with 9 per cent in 1981 and 26 per cent in 1992. Pre-school programmes formed 7 per cent of the schedules last year, down from 18 per cent in 1981, and 12

per cent in 1992 On ITV, cartoons accounted for 40 per cent of output, and



Squeezed by the cartoon heroes: programmes such as Play School and Sesame Street helped to prepare children for school and widened their interests, says the report

ming fell to 7 per cent last year from 22 per cent in 1982. Over the same period, drama aimed at children fell from 23 per

When satellite and cable channels are included, cartoons make up two thirds of all television for children. Lady Howe of Aberavon. chairwoman of the BSC, said: "The diversity of broadcasting offered to British children is declining, and we should be

cent to 12 per cent.

concerned. The tradition of public service broadcasting was to encourage the child's development as a good citizen, with critical abilities and an interest in a wide range of

Lady Howe added that her two-year-old grandchild was a great fan of the BBC's Telerubbies, "but that should not be all there is - there is scope for much much more". Cartoons such as The Simp-

sons, Scooby Doo, Tom and Jerry and Disney's Winnie Pooh had become the mainstays which squeezed factual and drama programmes, as ITV, Channel 4 and the BBC are forced to compete with dedicated satellite chan-

Maire Messenger Davies the University of Wales, who compiled yesterday's BSC report, The Provision of Chil-

nels such as Nickelodeon and

the Disney Channel.

dren's Television in Britain, said that the BBC had recently treated pre-school programmes in a "rather cavaller ashion" and had invested all its pre-school budget for the next two years on Teletubbies. She also referred to an "ominous" cut in the children's budget from £60 million last

year to £55 million this year. Many old programmes such as The Herbs and Playdays were being repeated, but fewer new ones were being made, she said. "Teletubbies is for two to three-year-olds, but what about four, five and six-year-olds? What is missing is the old Sesame Street and Play School-type programmes which featured an adult other than parents talking directly

She said such programmes compensated children who did not have nursery education, and helped to prepare them for school. "Animation is cheap to buy and there is a lot of temptation to fill up airtime with it. Although it is good stuff, it seems a lazy way to

fulfil their requirements." The report suggests that the BBC, like ITV and Channel 4, should come under the control of the Broadcasting Act, which has a mandate to provide diversity in children's programming and protects time slots. In May 1992, first shows

daily on BBC1. In 1996, Playdays repeats were on daily. "Playdays has now come to an end and the BBC has no pre-school magazine programme with diversity of formats - storytelling, music. craft activities, comedy, direct address from adult presenters from different ethnic and regional backgrounds."

Later. Roy Thompson, of BBC children's television. said: "The BBC is now showing more pre-school programming than before. Teletubbies is longer and more ambitious than its predecessors. We do not understand the comments on BBC's decline in pre-school output. The BBC is committed to providing a range of quality programmes for children of all ages. We agree with Lady Howe that children have the right to varied programming."

Vanessa Chapman, ITV controller of network children's programmes, said: "You will never see wall-towall cartoons on ITV. The report considers our output to

Janie Grace, managing director of Nickelodeon, said that cartoons were cheaper to buy, but were the most costly entertainment to make, apart from film drama: "In a global world, cartoons can travel from country to country because they can be dubbed. There are more cartoons now. vehicle for education.

be diverse and of quality."

Nigella Lawson, page 2!

# ITN told to improve Channel 4 news or risk losing its contract

BY RAYMOND SNODDY MEDIA EDITOR

MICHAEL JACKSON, the recently appointed chief executive of Channel 4. yesterday issued a challenge to ITN to come up with fresh ideas for Channel 4 News or face-losing the contract to other

Mr Jackson invited television producers to come up with new since the launch of the channel 15 a better chance of achieving that." vision News.

Jackson said: "No supplier has a was the first woman editor of a

freehold on a Channel 4 programme, and that means there must be times when other providers are given an opportunity to see if they are up to taking over the

ITN was seen yesterday to take his comments very seriously when it immediately removed Sarah Nathan, the editor of Channel 4 News, and made it clear that the decision was a direct proposals for what is, in effect, a response to Mr Jackson's chall-pre-tender document for the enge. It said: "With Channel 4 signal in the wish for change in vice, which has been provided. "Signal 4 News, a newedlity has a several in the said."

that it had no criticism of the in a thinly veiled threat, Mr editorship of Ms Nathan, who

national television news programme. Indeed, ITN emphasised her achievements, including last year's Bafta award and exclusives such as Bloody Sunday, about the chaining of women prisoners. Ms Nathan will leave towards the end of the year and ITN says it will appoint a new editor in the next few weeks.

Although ITN faces potential opposition, its existing contract, which ran until the end of next year, has been extended to the middle of 1999 to give it a chance to make the sort of changes that Mr Jackson wants to see.

ITN also announced that another of its programmes, 5 News, Channel 5's primetime programme, will move from its

8.30pm slot to 7pm in the new year. The hope is that the halfhour programme, presented by Kirsty Young, will attract a larger audience at the earlier time. The change means that 5 News and Channel 4 News will be competing head-to-head at 7pm, the first time that separate news programmes produced by ITN have competed so directly.

Channel 5 also plans to produce a half-hour lunchtime news pro-gramme at noon for the first time. Vacating its 8.30pm slot would, by coincidence, make it easier for ITV to move News at Ten to 8.30, in O'Clock News.

Television, page 51



Sarah Nathan: casualty of shake-up

## Spend more on drugs, NHS told

MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE NHS could cure its financial crisis by spending more on new drugs, the pharmaceuticals industry claimed yesterday. It said that increased spending on medirines would not only free hospital beds, but reduce unemployment levels, improve productivity and cut the social

services budget.
In the debate about funding the NHS, cost-efficiency is prevalent, but we must be sure that cost-effectiveness is not confused with cost-cutting," Peter Read, president of the Association of the British

Pharmaceutical Industry said. A list of past successes is to be sent to a cost-efficiency team at the Department of Health to show that drug treatment has cut the average length of stay in hospital since 1951 from 45 days to eight days, and that, over the past 40 years, medicines have made it possible to haive the number of hospital beds need-

ed to treat 12 major illnesses. "For every 10 per cent increase in the use of medicines, there is a 6.4 per cent drop in the amount spent on hospital care." Dr Read said. "For every pound spent on drugs there is a £3.65 saving on other

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# Sleaze has little effect on voters' view of Labour

IT IS NOT too hard to predict the result of tomorrow's byelection in Paisley South. Barring anything unforeseen and Labour has spent most of its time ensuring that the very word is removed from the lexicon — Douglas Alexander, a 30-year-old Edinburgh solicitor and sometime speechwriter to the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, will be elected MP for this solid Labour seat

Despite predictions of bitterness and rancour, it has been a surprisingly bland campaign. Mr Alexander seems to have been broadly accepted by the electorate as heir apparent to Gordon McMaster, whose suicide prompted the by-election. This is despite his relative youth, the fact that he seems the antithesis of the tough. West Coast Labour archetype, and that Edinburgh solicitors are not everyone's cup of tea in Paisley. "He's a lovely young man." said one Paisley matron, "very young, mind you, but lovely." In fact 30 is not all that young. It's just that Mr Alexander looks more like 19.

That is about all anyone can say about him thus far, since he has been kept well away from the usual round of daily press conferences. His is the face that appeared occasionally alongside Mr Brown in those fly-on-the-wall television

#### PAISLEY SOUTH

the Treasury. He didn't say much then. He's not saying much now. "Where's Dougy?" has been the theme cry of the campaign as his opponents try to pick a fight. A cut-out candidate," stormed one. "Running scared," said another. To no avail,

Labour's policy is clear: keep the temperature down, steer away from trouble and wait for Mr McMaster's 12,750 majority to be repeated on November 6. While all the other party leaders have been to Paisley, there has been no sign of Tony Blair. The very fact of the Prime

Minister's absence, as Sherlock Holmes might have said, is the curious thing about this campaign. The other curious thing is that sleaze, which everyone predicted would turn the by-election into as ferocious an affair as Tatton or Putney, has simply failed to ignite. Despite the best endeavours of Mr Alexander's opponents, the very word has seemed to lose its impact. It is as if its repetition has dulled the senses, and certainly the interest, of the voters. The SNP's Ian Blackford, by far the most impressive of the other candidates, has placed it at the top of the agenda and has pointed out that Labour's

allowed it to flourish. He may well make inroads in the Labour vote, but not enough to overturn a seat as safe as this.

And yet Paisley was where Labour's image seemed most tainted. After McMaster's death, lurid allegations gathered about the nature of local politics in the area. The neighbouring MP for Renfrewshire West, Tommy Graham, named in McMaster's suicide note, was said to have spread damaging rumours about him, and was suspended by the party. Mr Graham's election agent, Harry Revie, was accused of using threats and intimidation. A general sense of corruption became almost synonymous with the name of

Mr Alexander insists that

his party takes sleaze seriously. Yesterday, in a quiet masterstroke, the party announced that Mr Revie was being stripped of various offices, including his convenership of the property committee on Renfrewshire Council. If, tomorrow, the voters of Palsley do wonder whether Labour is capable of cleaning up its act, that could help them to make up their minds. But maybe they will simply go for "the lovely young man". ☐ General election result: G. McMaster (Lab) 21,482; W. Martin (SNP) 8,732; E. McCartin (LD) 3,500: R. Reid



Campaigning on the streets of the Beckenham constituency yesterday: the Conservatives' Jacqui Lait, left, and Labour's Bob Hughes



# ory running on a lukewarm formula

BY NICHOLAS WATT POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Tories should coast to victory in Beckenham, where comfortable London commuters have ensured victory for the party at every election since the seat was created in 1948. But two bugbears which led to the Tories' national defeat on May 1 — sleaze and Europe — have returned to haunt their by-election campaign.

Jacqui Lait, the pro-European who standing for the Tories, has been forced to cobble together an uncertain formula to show her lukewarm support for William Hague's hard-line stance on the single currency. Yester-day she professed herself to "be at BECKENHAM

case" with Mr Hague's decision to rule out membership for ten years. Mrs Lait, 49, made history in 1996 by becoming the first Tory woman whip, and is a former parliamentary private secretary to Mr Hague, but lost her Hastings and Rye seat on May 1. She said: "I am a Euro enthusiast, but I have always been sceptical about

the single currency."

Mrs Lait is also having to cope with local anger over the behaviour of Piers Merchant, who resigned the seat last month after an affair with a teenage nightclub hostess. Mrs Lait insisted

hard Tories are still smarting. John Cranstoun, 54, who owns a vegetable shop in Peage High Street, said: "I have voted Tory all my life, but I may vote Labour this time. You should not lie through your teeth. Lying is the lowest of the lowest."

Labour is relishing Mrs Lait's difficulties, which are overshadowing her campaign ahead of the by-election on November 20. Mr Merchant held the seat at the General Election, although there was a swing of 15 per cent to Labour. Gavin Strang, the Transport Minister who campaigned in the by-election yesterday, said that Labour now stands a "fighting chance" of winning. Bob Hughes, 39,

Merchant's behaviour, but some die- the Labour candidate, said that the success of the Government would attract voters from traditionally Toryvoting wards near Bromley, and that Conservatives should not underestimate the strength of the Labour vote in

Penge, which has some of the most deprived housing estates in London. Mr Hughes, who concentrated his campaign in Penge yesterday, said: "The perception of Beckenham as

leafy Tory territory is wrong." Rosemary Vetterlein, who was third in the general election, is standing again for the Liberal Democrats.

General election result P. Merchant (C) 23,084; R. Hughes (Lab) 18,131; R. Vetterlein (LD) 9,858. Tory

# 'Sour grapes' could still yield good Conservative vintage

"IT'S NOT a fix-up. I swear," said Mark Oaten, the Liberal Democrat candidate for the Winchester by-election. Out canvassing with The Times yesterday morning, the former MP who won the Hampshire seat by two votes in May, had just been hooted by three drivers who slowed down to give him the thumbs up. Similarly, nearly all the local

people he had visited, from old folk to young students, had expressed their support for the Lib Dems.

Almost embarrassed at this demonstration of popular support. Mr Oaten insisted: "We've still got a lot of work to do. We cannot be complacent." The Liberal Democrats are desperate to paint the November 20 poll as a very close twohorse race with the Tories. Nominations close this af-

#### WINCHESTER

ternoon for the by-election which was called after the High Court declared the general election result void. Ballot paper irregularities showed that Gerald Malone, the sitting Tory MP, would have won by two votes if some incorrectly stamped papers had been counted. The Lib Dems believe the

will persuade people to vote tactically against the Torles.

They hope particularly to squeeze a few votes from the 6,000 people who backed Labour in May. Labour is countering this

threat by talking up the Liberal Democrat's chances. They claim their private polling figures show Mr Oaten winning with a 3,000-

votemajority. This, they hope.

closeness of the May result will stop too many Labour voters feeling any need to shift their support to the Liberal

> Patrick Davies, the Labour candidate, said: "If the Tories had any chance of winning Winchester, would they have held Beckenham on the same

The Liberal Democrats are also fighting to keep on board distillusioned Tories who backed them in May, and a straw poll on the streets yesterday indicated they might succeed. Richard Knowles, 37, a businessman, voiced a popular sentiment: "There is a strong element of sour grapes about his refusal to accept the

One Tory voter who refused to be named added: "He should have just accepted the umpire's decision."

general election result."

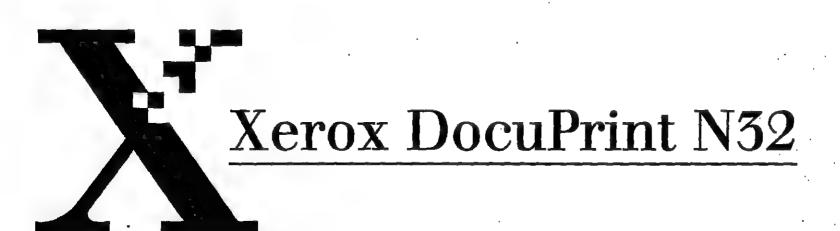
Despite this, Mr Malone was yesterday in a confident

mood. He believes his support for William Hague's tough line on a single currency will help woo back Tory voters. But with odds of 6-5 on both Lib Dems and Tories, local bookies, like most people in Winchester, still believe that the election is still too close to

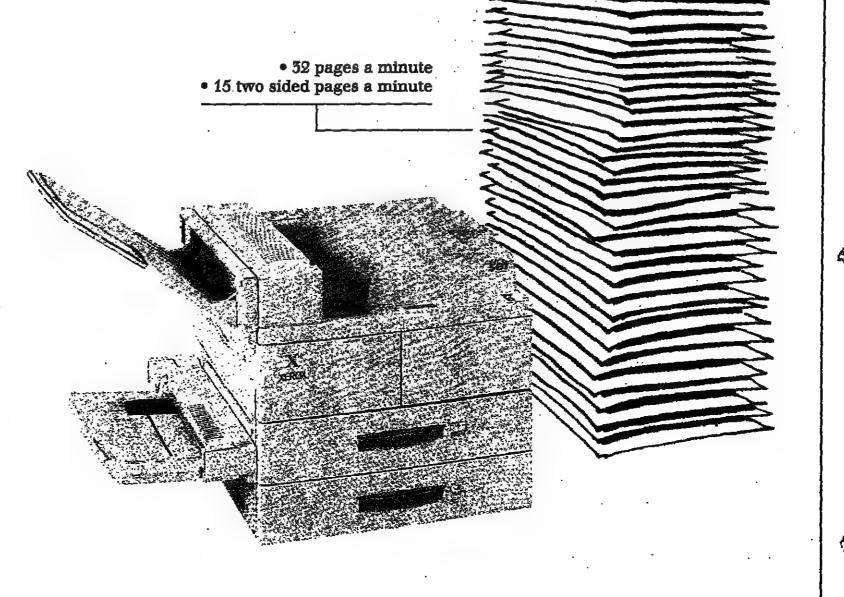
☐ General election result: M. Oaten (LD) 26,100; G. Maione (C) 26,098; P. Davies (Lab) 6,528. Lib Dem majority 2.



Mark Oaten: popular



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# BLAIR yesterday Lionel Jospin, the

French Prime Minister, to take swift action to help British lorry drivers stranded by the worsening drivers' strike in France, as violence erupted near the port of Boulogne when British drivers broke

through a strike blockade. In a 15-minute telephone conversation described as "robust". Mr Blair warned his French counterpart that the plight of the Britons would be raised at the Anglo-French summit tomorrow and Friday unless the dispute was resolved quickly,

Mr Blair reminded the French Prime Minister that compensation owed to British lorry drivers after last year's strike remains largely unpaid. He said that France should intervene immediately to help British drivers stranded by the dispute, a Downing Street official said. "The French au-

lorry strike, writes Ben Macintyre

thorities have a duty to help

them move on," he said. M Jospin assured the Prime Minister that his Government was doing its best to bring the strike to an end, but despite increasing calls from France's neighbours for direct government action the French Transport Ministry said that establishing "transit corri-dors" to allow foreign forries to move freely through France would be "mappropriate".

Neil Kinnock, the European Transport Commissioner, described the strike as deplorable, and his spokeswoman said that legal moves against France for failing to ensure the

Channel port queues force

to negotiations, but an official said the group may return to talks today.

Rensult, the French car-

maker, stopped production at two factories yesterday as the strike began to bite. It said it was laying off workers at assembly plants in Douai and Le Havre after deliveries of spare parts were held up by

The number of illegal blockades rose to more than 160 yesterday as strikers demanding higher pay and improved working conditions dug in for

a long campaign.
On Monday night Jean-Claude Gayssot, the Transport Minister and one of three mounists in the Cabinet, visited a barricade in Le Mans to hear strikers' grievances at first hand.

The economic effects of the strike are becoming apparent. All but one of France's 13 main oil refineries have been sealed off and Calais and Le Havre ports remained closed to

Spanish agriculture associations, threatening a boycott of French goods, estimated that the strike could cost Spanish fruit and vegetable producers more than £100 million.

With fuel stocks dwindling, several regional authorities in France requisitioned petrol stations for the use of emergency vehicles and rationing was imposed in many others. Motorists queued for hours to obtain a maximum of £15 worth of petrol.

Panic buying was reported in many parts of France and supermarkets said there could be serious shortages by the end of the week. Oasis, the rock band, can-

celled a concert that had been due to take place in Paris last night after their equipment was trapped by a roadblock in northern France. Police have been reopening

some key border crossings "The phones have been red hot all and intervening to break up fights, but the Government has made no move to break The Commission backed a call from the the strike by force.

council of transport ministers. Such a session could only be convened by Luxembourg, the current holder of the EU presidency, and it was unclear what results could be achieved.

Germany joined the chorus of com-plaints with a call to France to respect its obligations to its partners. Denmark is pressing the EU to ensure the passage of vehicles in transit, but officials said there were no means to compel France to obey. Mr Kinnock issued a fresh warning to

France that it could face legal action for breaching the rules of the single market, but his staff watered this down, saving such a move was a distant last resort.

The Commission also said it had no powers to force France to pay compensation. Last week Britain reminded the French that only a handful of cases from last year's strike had been compensated

and demanded faster action this time.



Transport Ministry officials said that policing transit corridors for foreign lorry drivers would be virtually impossible and could provoke the strikers to far more radical action.

They said that rekindling the dialogue between drivers and employers was the only way to defuse the crisis. But negotiations over ending the strike were moving

sluggishly. Another round of leaders and haulage bosses lasted just two hours. No date has been set for a resumption of talks, union official said.



Striking lorry drivers block the A22 Lille-Ghent autoroute yesterday at Roncoq

#### Irish lorry attacked as it rams blockade

VIOLENT scenes erupted near Lille last night as a frustrated lorry driver tried to ram his vehicle through barricades put up by striking

As an Irish driver, who had been halted for 12 hours by more than 200 French lorries. drove through the barriers, French pickets tried to smash his windscreen, and he drove at the crowd, injuring a union leader. Pickets then tried to block his escape route with a van, but he refused to stop and hit the front of the oncoming

An angry mob surrounded the cab of the halted lorry, and the driver locked his doors. Union organisers pushed the mob away, insisting that they did not want any violence.

Brian Finch, bl, from Bromsgrove in Worcestershire, who saw the incident. said the driver arrived at the blockade at midnight after delivering his load and was returning with an empty lorry to Kilkenny.

"At first he seemed philosophical about it all, but he returned to his lorry after lunch and seemed very frustrated at the continued delay," Mr Finch said.

Police were called to the scene and the unidentified Irishman was arrested and questioned for more than an hour at the scene, before being escorted away in his lorry with a heavy police guard.

The injured union leader was taken to hospital in Lille, but released after receiving

#### English motorway closure By Adrian Lee in calais and Kathryn Knight

THE French long strike began to make itself felt in Britain yesterday with the closure of a section of motorway to accommodate queuing lorries waiting to get to the

With drivers now facing delays of up to ten hours to cross the Channel, Kent police were forced to implement Operation Stack on the M20, closing two junctions to create a filter system for drivers waiting to enter Dover. More functions of the M20 are likely to be closed off in the next few days if the strike

British lorries came under attack yesterday when a convoy of British drivers ran a blockade near Boulogne after being trapped for two nights. French strikers were accused of trying to disconnect air

brakes on the 38-tonne vehicles and of causing minor damage to one lorry.

The leading three drivers, Steve Durbin, Les Reagan and Russell Forrest, said they saw a gap when spikes were removed to allow a French lorry through. "We just decided to go for it." said Mr Forrest, who was attempting to reach Valencia in Spain. "As I gathered speed, one man tried to grab the airline to lock the brakes."

Mr Reagan, 42, who was travelling to Lyons, said: "I just decided to keep going after my two mates. There were about 15 French drivers and by that time they all realised what was going on and were all shouting. One went for the brake line and kicked out at my lorry." Two other drivers, Perry

Newell, 32, of Hampton, Middlesex, and Pete Barr, 39, of Ashtead, Surrey, decided not to try to get through. They were later allowed to go when the French moved the barricade. The strikers' tacties in northern France appeared to involve setting up blockades for a few hours and allowing long queues to build up. The Channel Tunnel was

targeted for the first time when drivers placed spikes on the road to the departure terminal at 11.25am. Police gave them an ultimatum to move within two hours and, with two busicads of riot police standing by, the block-ade was removed 90 minutes

The Road Haulage Association said yesterday that there were now up to 150 blockades

## Brussels admits it is powerless to act

FROM CHARLES BREMNED IN ERUSSELS

**GOVERNMENTS** and companies across Europe yesterday deluged the European Commission with demands for action against the strike, but the Brussels executive conceded that it had little power

morning," said the spokeswomen for Neil Kinnock, the Transport Commissioner.

Dutch and Irish to hold an emergency

"Taking legal action against a member state is a very, very serious endeavour, said Mr Kinnock's spokeswoman.

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# 'Diplomacy before airstrikes' for Gulf warships

DEPENCE CORRESPONDENT

US WAYY

1 carrier: USS Nimitz with 77 aircra 2 cruisers: USS Port Royal

USS Elrod, USS Gary, USS Ford 1 attack submarine: USS Olympia

and fighter aircraft

1 landing ship dock: USS Comstock

us assault ship: USS Pek

g platform docic USS Junea

USS Harry W Hill (with Tom

AMERICAN warships in the Gulf, many carrying Toma-hawk cruise missiles, and combat aircraft are on standby for action against Iraq if the United Nations delega-tion sent to Baghdad fails to persuade President Saddam Hussein to lift the ban on American arms inspectors. There are 17 American war-

ships in the Gulf region with the USS Nimitz, the nuclearpowered carrier armed with 77 aircraft, patrolling the area as the most potent symbol of American firepower. Seven warships in the region are capable of carrying Toma-hawk cruise missiles. They are the two cruisers, USS Port Royal and USS Lake Champlain, four destroyers, USS Kincaid, USS Benfold, USS O'Bannon and USS Harry W Hill, and an attack submarine, USS Olympia.

The carrier, which has on

board 14 F14As, 24 F/AI8Cs, 12 F/Al8Bs and four EA6B tactical eletronics warfare aircraft, and an assortment of

USS Dextrous and US Ardent aircraft and reconnaissance planes, has an impressive array of armaments. They include 4,6000,000lb of aired bombs, general purpose bombs and the anti-radar HARM weapon. Although any military ac-tion against lraq is likely to be confined to airstrikes or cruise missile launches, the US

multipurpose amphibious assault ship, USS Peleliu, which has on board 2,100 "combatready" Marines from the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, with three air-cushion landing craft. There are also four Super Cobra attack helicopters, six AV8B Harriers and 16

Navy also has in the region a

The United States Air Force also has a large contingent of combat aircraft based in Sauthe Gulf, including F117 Stealth fighters.

200 Air Force and New aircraft

The two U2 spy planes which have been overflying Iraqi airspace to monitor attempts by Saddam to conceal weapons of mass destruction and other prohibited weapons

from UN arms inspectors are based at Taif in the middle of the Saudi Arabian desert.

These advanced versions of the American spy plane, now called U2Rs, have been flying on most days of the week. Aithough Saddam has threat-ened to shoot them down, it seems unlikely that the Iraqis possess air defence missile systems capable of destroying a target at such a high altitude. The U2Rs fly missions at more than 65,000ft. They fly at subsonic speed and have cameras on board that can take minutely detailed closeup photographs of activities

on the ground. U2 planes completed routine flights over Iraqi territory sterday without incident, a UN source in Baghdad said.
Although the US Air Force

has retained two U2s in Saudi Arabia, Paul Beaver, of the Jane's defence publications, said that sometimes the Americans used spy planes now based in the South of France on round trips, and occasionally the aircraft still used the US air force base at Fairford, Yesterday Martin Indyk,

for Middle Eastern and Near Eastern Affairs, said in Doha, 2 Qatar, that Washington would await the results of the UN mission to Baghdad before considering military ac-tion against Iraq. He said the US was waiting to see whether diplomacy could persuade Saddam to change his mind about ordering all American

for the diplomacy to bear fruit, he said at Doha airport. :Kofi Annan. UN Secretary- m General, has sent three en- in voys, an Algerian, an Argentinian and a Swede, to Bagh- san dad to try to resolve the crisis "S with Iraq. The team is due to ...t:

UN arms inspectors out of the

country. "We do not rule out any option, but we will wait

arrive in Iraq today.

Doha: Arab defence minis- ma ters of the Gulf Co-operation aw Council have approved a plan east to link their military telecom- of munications networks and set au up a common early-warning our system, a communique said i yesterday. The council groups of Saudi Arabia, the United on Emirates, Kuwait, 18 7 Qatar and also 15 Bahrain. (Reuters)

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American forces are on standby in the Gulf. Washington has dismissed Saddam's threats as mere bravado

# **US vows** to retaliate if Saddam fires on spy planes

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA AND TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

IRAQ'S confrontation with the United Nations enters a critical phase today when a three-man UN delegation arrives in Baghdad hoping to persuade President Saddam Hussein to reverse his ban on Americans serving in weapons inspection teams. A deadline set by the ing Americans to leave the

country expires this evening. Last night the United States warned Saddam that any Iraqi moves to endanger US reconnaissance aircraft in the region would result in swift American retaliation. William Cohen, the Secretary of Defence, said any attempt to attack the U2

aircraft scheduled to fly over Iraq this week would result in serious consequences. He was speaking before a White House meeting about Iraq between President Clinton and congressional leaders. As thousands of Iragis took

to the streets in orchestrated demonstrations against the United States, Baghdad declared it would use the meeting with the UN delegation to demand a "short and reasonable" deadline for lifting the 'uniust" trade embargo in force since Iraqi troops invaded Kuwait seven years ago. The UN invists it will not bargain. There are lears any weakness now could enable Saddam to preserve the remnants of his weapons of mass destruction and even allow him to develop ones that are

more difficult to detect. Yesterday Iraq again blocked routine weapons inspections in and around Bagh-dad because all three UN teams included Americans. But U2 reconnaissance planes serving UN weapons inspections were flying "without interruption" over Iraq, defy-ing threats from Baghdad to shoot them down, a UN

Washington has dismissed Iraqi threats against the U2s

stadt, said the four former

managers at Havert Industrie

launchers to Baghdad as well

as various components for

Scud B missiles, detonators.

vices used to attach bombs to

In doing so, they broke

Germany's arms exports laws

and, using taked documents,

gained government export

guarantees. The men refused

to make any public statements

aircraft.

as mere bravado, apparently confident Saddam will not risk provoking swift military retaliation.

The three UN envoys. Lakhdar Brahimi of Algeria. Jan Eliasson of Sweden and Argentina's Emilio Cardenas, were expected to leave Irag within 48 hours. No punitiv diplomatic or military action against Iraq is likely before the delegation reports back to the Security Council at the end of the week. The mission is led by Mr Brahimi, a highly respected and experienced diplomat who helped to nego tiate an end to Lebanon's civil war. But diplomats said he could expect a frosty reception from Iraqi officials who see him as an ally of Saudi

Arabia. Even seasoned Saddam watchers were reluctant to predict his next step. "It's easier second-guessing Asian stock markets." said an Iraqi husinessman in Jordan.

There were suspicions Saddam might even weicome limited American airstrikes and cruise missile attacks, calculating they could deepen divisions within the Security Council and rally Arab SUDDOIL.

☐ Moscow: George Robertson, the Defence Secretary said yesterday that Russia firmly supported other perma-nent members of the Security Council in demanding that Iraq back down in its latest challenge to the international community (Richard Beeston

Despite fears that Moscow might take a more conciliatory line with Baghdad over its expulsion of American members of UN weapons inspection teams. Mr Robertson said that Moscow and Britain had exactly the same policy. He was speaking after meetings with Yevgeni Primakov, the al Igor Sergeyev, the Defence

# Germans 'sold Scud parts to Baghdad'

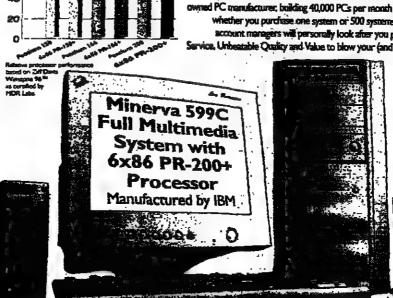
FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

to the court. They face jail GERMAN involvement in supplying arms to President sentences of up to three years Saddam Hussein was exposed if found guilty. They were named as Gerhard Paul, 51. yesterday as prosecutors accused four businessmen of Hans-Jürgen Urner, 49, Hans Friedrich. 60. and Jürgen exporting dozens of Scud missile launchers to Iraq. Prosecutor Ger Neuber, Bauer, 41.

The men had excellent conopening the trial in Darmtacts with the Iraqi authoriries. Customs documents filled out by the managers described smuggled around 85 rocket the body of the Scud rockets as "seamless pipes round in diameter". Military communications equipment was explosives, equipment for use described as "erasers and in chemical warfare and deschool notebooks"

The trial is particularly embarrassing for Bonn as it comes shortly after two other German businessmen were jailed for supplying Libya with electrical components in the manufacture of chemical weapons.





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# Zambia opposition leader 'tortured'

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN LUSARA AND JAN RAATH IN HARARE

A SENIOR Zambian opposition olitician has been tortured and starved by security authorities while under detention for alleged involvement in last week's failed military uprising, his lawyer said yesterday.

Dean Mungomba, a former international banker who heads the Zambia Democratic Congress, is the first opposition politician to have been detained under the stare of emergency introduced last week. He was arrested on Friday, despite an assurance by President Chiluba that he did not suspect opposition groups of involvement in the brief coup attempt.

He appeared in Lusaks High Court after a judge ordered police to produce him. "He has scars on his hands and bruises all over." John langwa, his lawyer, said. "He has been tortured. He has lost a lot of weight. He looks like a patient from

During his brief appearace in court, Mr Mungomba was allowed to speak to journalists. He said he was being held in a large cell in police headquarters in the capital, with the alleged coup plotters, including the two captains who seized the state radio station at

dawn on Tnesday last week and broadcast that they had overthrown President Chiluba.

Mr Mungomba's 28-day detention order alleges that he had acted with the alleged conspirators. "It is impossible to be involved with thesepeople," he said. The police whisked him away from the court before lawyers could arrange for a doctor to examine him.

Scores of other opposition figures and army officers either have fled the country or have gone into hiding since the security swoop on suspects began last week.

Human rights groups in Zambia have expressed their alarm over Mr Mungomba's detention and the harassment of journalists. The Lusaka-based group Afronet and the Law Association of Zambia condemned Mr Mungomba's arrest and described the declaration of a state of emergency as an abuse of human rights.

The incidents have heightened expectations that the Government will arrest other opposition leaders, including Kenneth Kaunda, the former President, and his political ally, Roger Chongwe, leader of the Liberal Progressive Front. In Au-

gust the two men were wounded after being fired on by police in what they said was an assassination attempt. They were out of the country when last week's coup

With hardiners in the ruling Movement for Multiparty Democracy in the ascendant, President Chiluba has proved increasingly impervious to criticism. He has ordered the security forces to break up opposition rallies, targeted the press and lashed out at non-government organisations.

government organisations.
Human rights groups have warned the Government that the state of emergency will again send the wrong signals to foreign governments about political stability and undermine the confidence of investors in the country.

Western diplomats in Lusaka say that Mr Chiluba must tread carefully because donor countries will not take kindly to an assault on the Opposition without the authorities offering any evidence of its involvement in the plot. A freeze on donor ald was eased in July, but the funding is up for review again next month when a meeting of donor countries convenes in Paris.

# Hitler's slaves await verdict

FROM ROCKE BOYES
IN RONN

THOUSANDS of former Nazi slave labourers and the German Government will be nervously watching a Bonn courtroom today as a groop of elderly Jewish women press home their long-neglected claims for compensation.

The ruling is expected to set a precedent for the survivors of the Third Reich's slave labour programme. Baron Münchhausen, who has been campaigning on behalf of the 21 women, says the Nazis used and sold more slaves than the traders who for mee than 300 years enslaved millions of Africans. If the court decides the

If the court decides the women can go ahead with individual claims against the Government for loss of earnings and pension rights, the Finance Ministry will have to open its chequebook.

The question is how many former slave labourers can consider the 21 women bringing their case as a precedent. Conservative estimates range from 5,000 to 30,000.



The self-portrait by Rembrandt. The work is believed to date from 1632

#### Light cast on artist's unknown portrait

FROM CHARLES BREMNER
IN PRESSELS

A PAINTING identified as a self-portrait by Rembrandt goes on display in Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum roday, after a leading Dutch expert said he had been convinced of its authenticity.

its authenticity.

The painting, believed to date from 1632, shows the painter in three-quarters profile, clad in fashionable white ruff, black hat and gloves. The work had hung for years in the bedroom of a Paris art dealer who believed that it was one of many Rembrandistrile works.

many Rembrandt-style works.

After it was bought by a Dutch collector more than a year ago, local experts suspected it was one of the 50 genuine self-portraits. Ernst van de Weterling, an art historian with 30 years as a Rembrandt expert, said his investigation had produced a body of evidence that confirmed the work as an original.

He revealed his conviction of the portrait's genesis in a book called Rembrandt: The Painter At Work, published vesterday.

# :W



Geimer: breaking ber silence after 20 years

#### Polanski woman denies she was raped

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

TE woman in the under-age sex scandal that sent Roman Polanski into exile in Paris has said she was not raped by him, but that their encounter was not consensual.

"He wasn't forceful or mean or anything like that," Samantha Geimer said on television last night. "I just tried to get it over with. I cried after it was all over."

Mrs Geimer, who was 13 at the time of her tryst with the director of Chinatowa, is now 33, married with two children and living in Hawaii. Her interview was the first in 20 years in which she has allowed herself to be identified, and could make or break Mr Polanski's attempt to be allowed to return to America. Her relationship with the

Her relationship with the director, who was then 43, began when he asked her to pose for a photo session in Los Angeles, she said. After persuading her to remove her shirt during the first session he invited her to another at the home of Jack Nicholson, the actor, where he said "the light would be hetter".

There they drank champagne, she remembered, before he photographed her in a hot bath and joined her. That was "when I realised something was wrong", she said. She protested before having sex, she said, but did not refuse for fear of his reaction. Mrs Geimer said she did

act "feet like a victim" and had no objection to Mr Polanski returning to the US. He fled in 1977 after pleading guilty to a charge of unlawful intercourse with a minor, for which he faced up to three years in jail. As part of a plea bargain, a more serious rape tharge was dropped.

Mr Polanski's wife, Sharon Tate, had recently been murdered by Charles Manson. Mrs Geimer explained her

Mrs Geimer explained her cagerness to take part in the photo shoot as the impulse of a young girl bent on stardom. "In my 13-year-old mind I was thinking "When you're a model, this is how you're expected to act," she said.

# US tour polishes Jiang's sullied image

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN BELING

A BEAMING President Jiang Zemin flew back to Beijing from a controversial visit to the United States yesterday, having apparently achieved his aim of boosting his image as a world statesman while giving little away on vital issues.

Asked during a brief welcoming ceremony if he was happy with the trip, the Chinese leader, 71, said: "Very happy."

Beging's suppression of political and religious freedom has earned the Chinese leadership international criticism, an image President Jiang was eager to dispel. But he gavelistie ground on such issues as human rights, Tibet and Taiwan, diplomats noted. Predictably, the Chinese Foreign Ministry yesterday pronounced the eight-day visit a

great success.

Mr Jiang shook hands with
Li Peng, the Prime Minister
and number two figure in the
Chinese leadership, at a short
welcoming ceremony in
Beijing's Great Hall of the

People.
Diplomats say the President, with the advantages of the trip to the United States, and a new and better personal relationship with President Clinton, has built on earlier gains he made this year after taking over the helm following the death of Deng Kiaoping. Mr Jiang, who besides being President and party chief, is the top figure in the army, has this year also successfully presided over the transfer of sovereignty of Hong Kong from Britain, and the 15th Party Congress, when he side-

"Jiang got good marks, and the success of the American trip has consolidated Jiang's position within the political establishment as China's top-leader," said one foreign diplomat in Beijing. "He already held all the reins of power, but given he had not the revolutionary credentials of Deng or Mao, he needed to put his personal stamp on the leader-ship, which to a large entent he

has now succeeded in doing."

There has been no hint in the Chinese press that President Jiang was anything but warmly welcomed wherever he went in the United States. There was no reporting in the controlled press of demonstrations calling for a fee Tibet or an independent Taiwan. President Jiang admitted in the US, however, that protesters who dogged his steps taught him something about American democracy.

# New Zealand poll hint

Wellington: New Zealand grould be faced with an early election if Winston Peters, the New Zealand First party leader, fulfils his threat to pull his party out of the coalition Government because he was not consulted about leadership changes in the National Party (Cathie Bell writes).

Jenny Shipley, the Trans-

ger, the Prime Minister, to resign after getting sufficient support to topple him during the two weeks he was at the Commonwealth. Heads of Government Meeting in Edinburgh and on an official visit

not consulted about leadership changes in the National Party (Cathie Bell writes).

Jenny Shipley, the Transbour Alimister, storced Jim Bolters voiced his opposition.

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# Conscience of Delhi stirs over animals' burden

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

THE Indian Government is showing signs of bowing to the concerns of animal rights usually buy frail animals cheaply from auctions and work them until they drop. activists, in a country where large parts of the economy depend on overworked beasts

The bullock, vital to small farmers, is perhaps the most routinely tortured species. Owners inflict pain to force bullocks to haul huge loads; some use chilli powder on sensitive parts of the body to make them work harder.

Most of the animals are sent to slaughterhouses while still young because they quickly become too weak to work. There are an estimated 15 million working bullocks in India, and most suffer damaged necks — the usual reason for premature retirement -

from hauling excessive loads. The owners say their animals have to carry large loads

The law, never enforced, provides for a fine of 100 rupees (E1.75) for beating, ill-treating or torturing an animal. The practice of castrating bullocks by tying them by all four legs and smashing their genitals with a rod is commonplace.

However, the Government is tackling one of the most familiar and disturbing images of urban India: caged and often dying birds being carried around on the backs of bicycles by hawkers. India has reinforced a ban on bird trapping to save hundreds of exotic species from one of the country's cruellest and oldest

The trade is pursued mostly by tribal indians, whose collective knowledge of breeds, habitat and migration habits to compete with lorries. They of colourful birds is almost

unequalled. They use the same trapping techniques devised centuries ago, often involving nothing more than string and ple depend on the trade.

Effective controls over cruelty to animals are scarce in a country where there is so much cruelty to humans, especially to hundreds of thou-sands of children producing fireworks, cigarettes, matches, carpets, glass and other goods, But animal welfare is creeping on to the political agenda and the effort to control bird trafficking promises to be one of the most effective moves against animal torture.

The Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act of 1972 was reinforced in 1990 to control the export of live birds; recent provisions have extended the law to local trading in live birds. The main domestic traders are pet-shop



A bullock drawing a dray in Delhi. The animals are routinely mistreated by their impoverished owners

ic birds for foreign buyers. The export ban is reasonably easy to enforce because of the visibility of the trade. But customs inspectors are somemost Indian cities. The birds are kept in tiny cages and die if they are not quickly sold. animals in India are cows. hundreds of thousands of

devouring leftovers from homes and vegetable markets. Many are diseased, however, catchers in Delhi used to remove the animals and put

du religious leaders protested. Packs of stray dogs, now protected against capture and slaughter despite the threat of rabies, add to Delhi's burArgentine President is invited to Britain

By MICHAEL BINYON

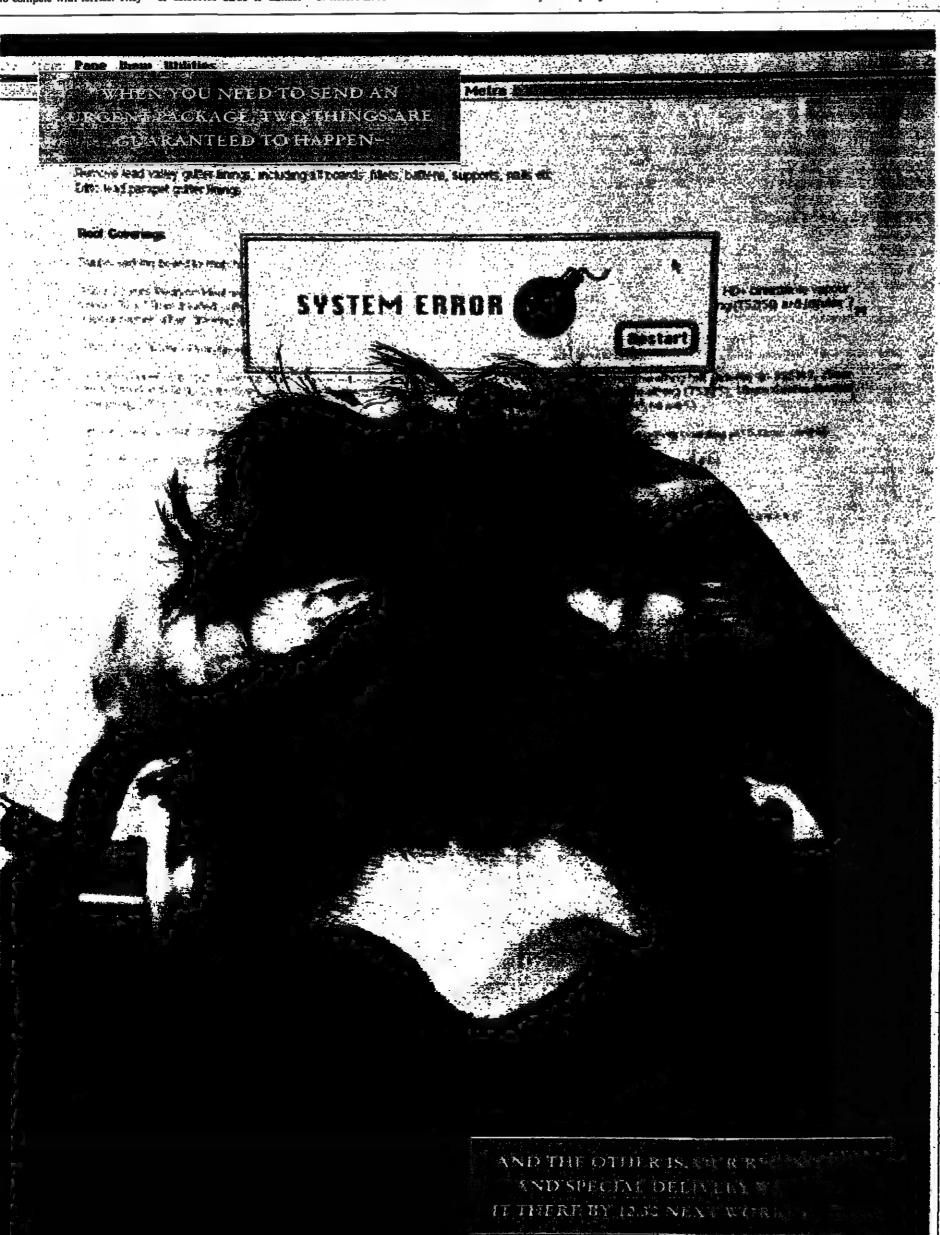
THE Government invited.

President Menem of Argentina yesterday to pay an official visit to Britain in recognition of burgeoning trade and political relations and his efforts to improve relations since the

Falklands war. No date was set, but in talks yesterday between Robin Cook the Foreign Secretary, and Guido di Tella, the Argentine Foreign Minister, it was suggested that Senor Menem might come in the second half of next year. His term of office expires in 1999 and he is constitutionally barred from running again.

An invitation was extende originally by John Major at the United Nations in September 1995, when Britain signed a new oil agreement on under-Falklands.

The invitation was then put on hold because the Conservasurface before the general



#### WORLD IN BRIEF

#### 4,000 feared dead in Vietnam storm

Hanoi: At least 132 people were killed and up to 4,000, most of them fishermen, were missing after a typhoon hit Vietnam &

southern coast. Thousands were left homeless by Typhoon Linda, which destroyed buildings, roads, bridges and dykes at the weekend before heading west to the southern coast of Thailand. Thai government officials said Linda killed two people and injured two on Monday night as it moved towards Bangladesh, but it lost some of its power and was downgraded to a ropical storm.

About 1.330 boats foundered and a further 1.500 disappeared. At least three fishermen would have been un board each of the boats that have disappeared. (Reuters)

#### Floods sweep East Africa

Nairobi: Floods and rain across the eastern highlands of Ethiopia, southern Somalia and northern Kenya have killed dozens of people and displaced thousands of others, aid agencies reported. They said torrential storms and floods blamed on the El Nino phenomenon have washed away roads, affecting countries up and down East Africa in the past ten days, and feared there could be worse to come. "If the rains continue to be as heavy as they have been in the past week, we could be looking. at a major crisis," said Burk Oberle, Somalia director of the United Nations World Food Programme. (AFP)

#### Plea by backpacker killer

Sydney: Ivan Milat, right, the Austra-lian jailed last year for life for the murder of seven backpackers, including two British women, appealed against his conviction in person yester-day (Roger Maynard writes). Milat, 53, told three judges in Sydney that his case had been prejudiced by pre-trial publicity. He argued that evidence given by Paul Onions, a British tourist attacked by a man fitting Milat's description, had been misrepresented in the judge's summing-up.



#### **US hardens Sudan sanctions**

Washington: Ching Sudan's support for terrorism, the United States is imposing severe economic sanctions that include a ban on bank loans and seizure of Sudanese assets in the United States. President Clinton signed an executive order also barring the shipment of American technology to Sudan and the importation of its goods. Madeleine Albright, the Secretary of State, said: "We take these steps because the Government of Sudan has failed to respond to repeated expressions of concern or to the imposition of lesser sanctions." (AP)

#### Nuclear protesters arrested

Hamburg: German police detained 64 activists demonstrating outside a north German nuclear power station, where a shipment of radioactive waste bound for the Sellafield reprocessing plant in Cumbria began its journey. The police said that the protesters had tried to prevent a railway engine from entering the grounds of the Kruemmei power plant, just east of Hamburg. The power plant operators said that the train left for England during the afternoon. (Reuters)

#### MP tells of 'Rao bribe'



Delhi: An Indian court here began hearings on vote-buying charges against P.V. Narasimha Rao, left, the former Indian Prime Minister. The court heard Shailendra Mahato, and court heard Shailendra Mahato, and constitute MD claim that he had opposition MP, claim that he had received more than £68,000 for helping save Mr Rao's minority Government during a parliamentary vote in 1993. The bribes were allegedly paid to four members of a regional party and seven others from an opposition group to side with the Government. (AFP)

#### Afghan short cut to paradise

Kabul: The Taleban are cutting hair forcibly in Kabul in their drive to turn Afgianistan into a pure Islamic state. "We are cutting hair that hangs over the forchead because when you pray it gets in the way of your forchead touching the ground; the Devil stands between you and God," said Matulawi Abdul Rashid Darkasti, of the Taleban religious police, formally known as the Department for Promoting Virtue and Preventing Vice. (Reuters)

#### Thai coalition seeks leader

Bangkok: Thailand's shaky coalition Government is struggling to agree on a successor to Chavalit Yongchaiyudh, the Prime Minister, who plans to resign this week. The six-party coalition, in power for II months, has agreed to remain together but has yet to decide who would replace Mr Chavalit, who has been under pressure because of the country's economic crisis. (Renters)

#### Peak-rate calls for troops

Srinagar: India has installed what is claimed to be the world's highest public telephone booth on the 20,000 ft Siachen Glacier in Kashmir so that soldiers lighting in a border dispute with

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# Diana police call in **Fiat owners**

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

FRENCH police investigating the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, have begun calling in thou-sands of Fiat Uno car owners for questioning in an attempt to find a vehicle that may have collided with the Mercedes limousine carrying the Princess moments before her fatal

Chemical and spectrographic analysis of scrapes found on the right side of the wrecked Mercedes have identified a white paint corresponding to a type known as bianco-corfu, used by Fiat on its Uno model between 1983 and August 1989. Some 40,000 Fiat Unos with those specifica-tions are registered in

France. The police search, which could take months, began in the Hauts-de-Seine region on the out-skirts of Parls, where 1,800 such cars are registered. Owners were summoned for interview.

If the car is not found in the initial sweep, the hunt. another 70,000 Fiat Uno owners in France and then to other makes of car.

Last week scientists from the National Police Institute for Criminal Research outside Paris submitted a forensic report to Hervé Stéphan, the magistrate leading the investiga tion, which concluded that the scrapes were most probably left by a Flat

The paint scrapes also correspond to paint used on three additional Fiat models and six other makes of car, but the Flat Uno theory is reinforced by the discovery of fragments of a Flat Line rear before the point of impact, The Mercedes has been completely dismantled is. stili

examined. ☐ Berlin: Just two months after her death, Diana, Princess of Wales, has become the subject of an academic course at Berlin's Free University. "Myths and politics: Diana - from the Princess of Wales to the Queen of Hearts" is a 14-part lecture series launched last week by the university's political science department. (Reuters)

# Playboy scientist gives astrology five-star rating

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

has recorded the hour of birth

marriages conducted in Swit-

zerland between 1987 and 1994

- focusing on 717,526 men and

The scientists studied all

of every citizen.

A WIDE-RANGING statistical study charting the influence of star signs on marriage, work, love and death has been produced by the unlikely fig-ure of Gunther Sachs, famed as one of Europe's most ener-

getic playboys.

His book, The Astrology File, is set to become a bestseller in Germany if only because of readers' curiosity about the silver-haired millionaire who was once mar-ried to Brigitte Bardor, he is a constant feature of tabloids as an habitue of nightclubs and ski slopes. The book does, however, make a serious attempt to test the assumptions of newspaper astrologists and concludes that star signs do

play a significant part in women. Marriage and divorce shaping lives.

Mr Sachs, who studied all the obvious distortions had mathematics, set up an insti-tute for "the empirical and been factored out, Mr Sachs's team of scientists agreed on mathematical examination of the three most durably attractthe possible truth of astrology ed star partnerships: Capriin relation to human behavcorn male with Pisces woman; Pisces man with Scorpio woman; Gemini man with iour". Two well-known statisticians from Munich University double-checked to ensure Taurus woman. The three no distortion had crept into the analysis of the data, mostly most tenuous relationships appear to be: Libra male with from Swiss authorities. Swit-Aries women: Aries man with zerland has held a regular Leo woman; Gemini man with census since 1850. Since 1875 it Capricorn woman.

Mr Sachs, a 65-year-old Scorpio, said that "the hus-band of a Gemini woman lives with a higher than average risk of divorce". He has himself been married to a Gemini the former Swedish model Mirja, for 28 years. "I hope that this status quo persists in spite of the stars."

Mr Sachs, who became a Swiss citizen, also examined 1,195,174 Swiss deaths between 1969 and 1994. Narrowing the causes of death to 20, he found disturbing patterns: Leos had a tendency to die of strokes, Leos and Librans were prone to lung cancer, Scorpios and Capricorns to stomach cancer, and Pisces were vulnerable to accidental death and breast

The database for suicide was narrower - 30,358 men



Sachs and present wife, Mirja. According to his theory, it is a star-crossed match

in 25,000 car accidents,

draw conclusions: Taurus, Pisees and Cancers were more likely to kill themselves; Librans and Sagittarians were least likely. Pisces suicides preferred sleeping pills, Tau-rus exhaust fumes and Cancers often shot themselves.

Data from the British Accident and Insurance Management company, collecting information on those involved

showed that Taurus and Virgo drivers were more accidentprone, while Leos and Scorpios were better drivers. Data from 231,036 German students confirmed stereotypes of newspaper astrologists: Librans showed a significant inclination to study law.

Mr Sachs claims his study was "the first time that astrology has been put on a scientifically supported basis". He argues that astrology is a source of fascination for individuals and governments, yet they are embarrassed to declare their interest. "Astrology is like a fiery red-haired, wellendowed, much-desired mistress - who is nonetheless hidden away from the world." It took a playboy scientist, he says, to bring this passion into

#### Moscow signs up for mine clearance

By RICHARD BEESTON RUSSIA yesterday signalled

that it was serious about its pledge to ban landmines, when the Defence Minister promised to work with Britain on a project to promote mine clearance around the world. Speaking after a meeting in Moscow with George Robertson, the visiting Defence Secretary, General Igor Sergeyev said a Russian team of experts would come to Britain next the British Army. Last week Mr Robertson announced plans for the opening early next year of a Mine Information and Training Centre which will assist organisations involved in clearing

Russia was the first country to be invited and General Sergeyev accepted immediately and reiterated his support for President Yeltsin's surprise announcement last month in Strasbourg that Moscow would join the Onawa Process to ban anti-personnel mines. The endorsement of the military is regarded as vital because Russia is one of the world's largest manufacturers of mines and used them extensively during conflicts from Afghanistan in the 1980s to Chechnya in the mid-1990s.

Mr Robertson and General Sergeyev also agreed to strengthen military ties by establishing meetings of senior military officers and endorsed plans for regular joint manocuvres by their navies.

MINOLTA

### Mir orbits Earth with door open

Sachs and his former wife, Brigitte Bardot, in Spain

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S cosmonauts faced a new peril in the space station Mir yesterday, when mission control announced that the outer hatch on the orbiter had

not closed properly. After several successful efforts to repair Mir, including spacewalks and the replacement of the oflocard comp er, the two Russian cosmonauts and one American astronaut were faced with the uncomfortable prospect of effectively orbiting the Earth

with their door open. The problem arose after Anatoli Solovyov, Mir's commander, and Pavel Vinogradov, the flight engineer, completed a gruelling six-hour spacewalk on Monday to remove a solar panel, which will be replaced tomorrow during

a second spacewalk. The operation was delayed after mission control in Moscow reported that Mr Solovyov's spacesuit was not functioning properly and was.

failing to transmit information about oxygen supplies and other vital data. The walk went ahead regardless, but after the two Russians returned through the Kvant-2 module they realised that the outer hatch had not been sealed properly.

"When they came into jone of the airlocks]," an official for mission control, outside Moscow, said, "they realised that the hatch had not been closed airtight." She said that the problem did not endanger the crew. The module has three airtight compartments and similar malfunctions in the past have been overcome.

The setback is a relatively minor blip on what has been a comparatively accident-free period for Mir. But earlier this year the space station suffered a serious fire, the failure of its oxygen generators and, in the summer, the orbiter was badly damaged in a collision with a supply ship.



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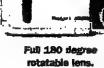
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#### **Balkans** leaders set sights on prosperity

FROM REUTERS IN AGIA PELAGIA, CRETE

BALKAN nations called yesterday for their bloodstained history to be put behind them and replaced by an era of peace and prosperity. Greece, Turkey, Romania, Yugoslavia, Albania, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Bulgaria and Bosnia ended a two-day summit on Crete agreeing to create a framework for eco-

nomic growth and political "We shall work together to create in our region conditions for the prosperity of our nations in a framework of peace, security, good-neigh-bourdiness and stability," they

said in a final declaration. But the leaders did not have to look far to see how difficult a task they face. A bilateral meeting on Monday between Costas Simitis and Mesut Yilmaz, the Prime Ministers of Greece and Turkey, made scant progress in solving their problems over Cyprus and the

Despite the failure, the Baikan nations all said they were determined to build closer regional ties - accepting that it would take time. "The road is still long. These countries, like us, have problems. But we hope that with time they will be able to face them." Mr Simitis said.

The leaders set up a framework for future links and promised to harmonise their laws, break down trade barriers, support the rule of law, and fight crime and drug support the rule of law, smuggling across the region.

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In our final extract of his biography of Alfred Kinsey, James H. Jones looks at how Kinsey's dismissive, misogynistic attitude to women's sexuality was greatly at odds with his philosophy of sexual liberation

lfred Kinsey made little effort to conceal his low estimation of women's sexuality. In 1948 he told a journalist that the average girl under 20 engaged in sexual activity for social, not sexual, reasons: "It means dates with boys, automobile rides, shows and hilarious company. If intercourse is part of the tax, OK, so long as the other girls in her group are similarly involved." For emphasis, he added: "The drive involves the boy, not the girl."

Many women who had read the male volume took umbrage at his remarks. Some wrote, hoping to disabuse him of his misconceptions. All insisted females were not sexually inferior to males. A few claimed superiority. None made the case for female sexuality more

forcefully than a 35 year-old from the Midwest with two young sons. A single parent, her main outlet was masturbation. "I have an outlet of approximately 130 a month," she wrote. "I know six women whose husbands could only partially satisfy them."

Many Americans did not want to hear what Kinsey had to say, fearing he would knock women off their pedestals. Others were afraid he wouldn't. Kinsey was in a

bind. Politically speaking, his opinion of intercourse; 13 per cent had had at least female sexuality was counterproductive. It did not fit in with his ideology of sexual liberation. For if he was predisposed to discount women's sexual capacity, he put the highest premium on the need for a sexual revolution. But how was the revolution to be achieved if half the troops were not at the barricades? It was far from clear whether Kinsey would resolve the tension between his misogyny and his

life's mission, Kinsey and Wardell Pomeroy did most of the interviewing for the female volume. The fact that no women were incuded among the interviewers for the male volume was not lost on the female subjects. Declaring herself "somewhat perturbed to learn that a large part of the done by men", a woman from Pennsylvania said: "I feel that this is a grave mistake. But the absence of female interviewers did not stop women co- a spouse or the social code.

operating; indeed, volunteers lined up in droves to offer their histories. Many were curious about what the experience would be like, some had problems they hoped to solve, while others held liberal views on sex. Some, however, wished to support

Kinsey began writing in the summer of 1951, and continued for the next 18 months. To improve the sample, he removed prisoners and many lower-class subjects, and cleaned up most of the minor statistical errors that had annoyed reviewers of the male volume. He also increased the number of cases supporting the text, providing a firmer factual foundation for his data. Many of his statements drew on his personal

A lot of

women

took

umbrage

at Kinsey's

remarks

tions of human sexual behaviour, as well as his observations of the sexual behaviour of lower mammals.

As with men, Kinsey's data showed a wide gap between the conduct society expected of women and how they actually behaved. Kinsey found 62 per cent of the women in his sample had masturbated; 66 per cent had had sex dreams; 90 per cent had petted; nearly 50 per cent had had premarital intercourse; 26 per cent had extramarital

one homosexual contact that resulted in orgasm; and 3.6 per cent had had at least one sexual contact with a lower animal.

These figures were bound to produce an uproar. Yet in many respects, these revelations contained few surprises, and these were of degree rather than kind. People familiar with the male volume understood there was a gap between the prescribed and the actual sexual behaviour of men. There was no reason not to expect similar revelations for women.

Kinsey found much to commend in extramarital sex. After noting that it was more common and more often tolerated in men than in women, he discussed the social reasons why women had affairs. Many took lovers to relieve sexual friends. Some did so to retaliate against a spouse who had cheated, still others to assert personal independence, either from



Many Americans did not want to hear what Kinsey had to say, fearing he would knock women off their pedestals; others were afraid he would not

Although he acknowledged that adultery often caused friction and not infrequently led to divorce. Kinsey made it clear that such disturbances were far from inevitable. In some cases the "sexual adjustments with the spouse had improved as a result of the female's extramarital experience". But adultery was not for those easily intimidated by social mores. Rather, it could be handled successfully only by those capable of overriding social mores with willpower. people who sounded suspiciously like Kinsey and his Inner circle.

Yet for all its limitations, Sexual Behaviour in the Human Female remains a provocative and personal work. It reveals the scientific philosophy and methodology, the private passions, values above all, the inner conflicts of its author. ● Alfred C Kinsey: A Public/Private Life, by James H. Jones, is published on November 12 CLARA Bracken McMillen KINSEY'S IDEAL MATE was the ideal mate for Kinsey. While he was easer to

begin a female relationship, it had to be with a woman who was secure and unafraid to make the first move; a woman who could look beyond the awkwardness to see his merit. Clara fitted the bill. Not only was letic looking, he was obvi-ously brilliant she friendly, confident and

strongly attracted to Kinsey. Photographs show short-waisted, slightly plump, round-faced young wore her bair in a Dutch bob. Had she worked on her annearance. Clara might virgins . have turned some heads. But she seemed oblivious to her looks. If anything, Clara looked downright boyish.

clothes frumpish. Clara's looks and taste in clothes may have enhanced her appeal to Kinsey. He probably preferred a woman who did little to accentuate her femininity. Still, Kinsey must have been warmed by Clara's character. She was poised and self-confident.

highly competitive and, most important, calm and Nor is it difficult to understand what Clara saw in Kinsey. Handsome and ath-

and he gave evindication knowing

they started dating. Nor were they ungard. Yet, in

morality had an ally. His restraint probably had as much to do with sexual conflicts as with moral rectitude. His behaviour fits the pattern of many homosexual males forming a heterosex-ual relationship. Recent studies show that gay men who become engaged often. Kinsey later confided to a friend that the problem involved both inexperience

fall to make any efforts at seduction. This is especially

true of men with little experi tend to feel anxious about their ability to perform. While Kinsey's feelings toward Clara may not have been this trou-

> doubtful whether he tense moral in-

al identity, Kinwith their finness.

about having intercourse In the event, their marriage was not consummated on their honeymoon, nor for several months thereafter,

and physiology. "Kinsey wasn't altogether clear how to go about this," explained a was quite apprehensive."

unique, Kinsey and Clara's critics had been charging all along society was not preparing young people for marriage. In theory, hus bands, were supposed to teach wives, but in practice men often did not know enough to fulfil their duty.

coped with their honeymoon they would have discussed the problem candidly is un-likely. Still, they did not allow their sexual problems to end their marriage; and the fact that they stayed together relieved a great deal of pressure. It was a sign that each valued the relationship. To remain together marriage, Kinsey and Clara had to agree to compromise on what most couples considered fundamental. That kind of resilience and flexibility was to become a sa-

# Thingamejig



# What'stheirname

## **Tonight on TV**

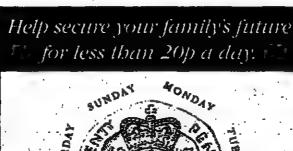
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Children on!

# Toddlers on track for success

hey are little more than babies but 212-year-old Ami and three-year-old Mary are on trial. As they go through their unselfconscious paces before the staff and head of Palmers Green High School, every smile, every word, every gesture of co-operation — or their absence will be interpreted and analysed.

Those tots who pass the appraiswill be on the fast track to academic success. At three years old, they will embark on a curriculum that will lead to each girl gaining an average of ten GCSEs.

By four, they will be in posses-sion of the straw boater and bright green blazer that is the trademark uniform of the London school where the ethos is one of high motivation, lady-like manners, and, says the head, Sian Grant,

"keeping cynicism at bay".

With a high ratio of applicants to places (three to one at nursery age, seven to one for entry at 11), the prospect for many is of rejection at a tender age. The selection process, normally carried out behind closed doors, has been filmed for BBC2's Modern Times series.

If the toddlers are blithely unaware of the importance of their reaction to the smiling lady who leans across her desk and inquires of them: "How many legs does an octopus have?", their parents realise that they, too, are under

There is a heart-stopping moment when Ami, perched on the knee of her father, newsagent and confectioner Mukul Patel, is asked: "Have you been to a zoo?" As Mr Patel obligingly shakes his head, you can't help feeling that Ami has been condemned because of the parental omission in not introducing her to captive beasts.

Ami was not offered a place. Mr Patel, an honours graduate of an Indian university whose family lives above their shop in Enfield, is still bewildered. His older daughter Karishma, now seven, was also

rejected.
"They are bright girls who need direction," he says. "I am very busy, working 14 hours a day, seven days a week in my shop. My wife comes downstairs to help me, so we have little time to spare.

"At one point, the head teacher stopped me explaining to Ami what

In pursuit of academic success, private schools are testing two-year-olds. Moira Petty reports

'Oh, no. I've done the wrong thing.'

Jim and Avril Willard, the parents of Mary, had a happier experience and their daughter has en at the school since September. "Mary was asked if she had been on a horse and to the zoo, and she was able to say she had," says Mrs Willard, a biochemist who has taken five years out to be with her

"Mary is used to a fast tempo. She needs a lot of activity to dissipate her energy. We have a season ticket to the zoo. We go to

many museums including the science ones, because she is very mechanically minded. She does gym. ballet, drama, and swimming. We are always out and about, and I see that as my job for

Mrs Grant, headmistress for nine years of the independent girls' school where fees rise to £1,650 a term, says she is looking for par-

ents "who want the best and who will support us. Have they stimulated the child, or just put her in front of a video and told her to be quiet? Can the parents control the kid's behaviour on a day when they're out to impress? All this is a reflection of values in the home."

Mrs Grant says she is obliged to select those girls who will best be able to cope with the academic tenor of the school, which educates up to the age of 16. But how accurate is her assessment of a twoyear-old? In the documentary, she and another member of staff are discussing the youngest applicants; Judgments like "she was a bit of a pudding, I couldn't see that spark",

appear intuitive. Mrs Grant concedes that her system is conducted in quite an ". She is seeking

who want to learn, who are interested". They might range from those who are "very verbal" to "another who is thoughtful and

wistful, but who watches and absorbs it all". She believes she "generally picks the right child but agrees that children do not all mature at the same rate, it seems to be as much a matter of luck as parenting skills if a child's abilities and demeanour coincide with the main intake at

ages three and four. Some children are ahead on the physical side, but behind in their

ability to concenshe confirms, "We do not run a play school. Even the voungest have a timetabled morning which is academically based. come into the prep department at they are ready." The advent of

league tables has caused what some see as a vicious

circle. Testing has therefore become more rigorous. Mrs Grant believes that more schools will include testing of two-year-olds.

The test begins with a stint with

the head of the nursery school. She is looking for the signs that a girl is ready to begin reading and writing with good co-ordination and the ability to follow instructions. The toddlers are asked to pick out colours, to count, to join the dots.

Then they are ushered into the head's office, parents in tow. They are encouraged to talk about them-selves so that vocabulary and experience may be gauged. They're not had asked to go through hoops, just to reveal what they're capable of." she says.

She notes the relationship between child and parent and the keenness of discipline. "If the child explain to her, she said. I thought, children "with those bright eyes, let it go on for a bit to see what the

parents will do. If they don't intervene. I will talk to them about what we expect of them. Do they want the type of disciplined environment we offer here or are they more the free expression type?

Sushma Shah, the mother of pupil Anjali, confesses to feeling nervous during her daughter's test last May. Mrs Shah, who qualified as a dentist in Africa, had at the time just sat examinations to register in Britain.

"So I was feeling really stressed

and my brain was analysing all that Anjali was doing. I explained that she didn't like colouring very much, but loved hallet and singing. They asked her to sing. I appreciated that they were looking at a different aspect of her. We're great believers in discipline so that paid off. She was willing to sit on Mrs Grant's lap and chattered away about going on the plane to India."

Mr Patel says of the testing ystem: "I've never seen anything like it. What do they expect from a 212-year-old? If they take only the

best children, they're bound to turn out the best." Mrs Grant claims that the system is selective but not elitist. "People are too quick to put their own expectations on to their children." She says it is not biased in favour of middle-class parents, but against those who "don't always handle their children sensibly". Candidates for entrance at II are scrutinised as searchingly as the

orty-seven per cent of the girls are from ethnic mi-norities. "Some parents have two or three jobs and make sacrifices to send their children here. One market-stallholder says proudly: 'Look what my daughter has become. We respect ail parents equality."

Meanwhile, Ami's father is scrambling to find the right school. She is in a state school, but, with her sister, has been offered a place at a private school. "State schools are too slow," he says. He still thinks Ami's rejection was unfair. They didn't tell us where Ami

fell down. If I have a third child, I'll have them holding a pencil at 18 months," he jokes. "No, of course I wouldn't force a child. They should have time to play. You can't bring those years back."



Soraya, 3, takes a test where she is asked to pick out colours, to join the dots and to count

Of Englishness and innocence + Short long on pragmatism + Animated argument

# A national heroine she ain't

JUST imagine that it was the other way around for a mo-ment. What if a foreign au pair working over here were found guilty of killing her charge, an infant

Somehow it's difficult to believe that the tabloid press would be quite so insistent on shing the nanny-of-all-ourhearts line. Who, then, would be crying foul at a jury's.

decision to convict? That isn't to miss the point. For, her family and friends (who have no obligation to be objective in such matters) apart, the general assumption seems to be that Louise Woodward's being British is guarantee enough of her innocence. To suggest otherwise or moot that a jury that has heard many days' worth of evidence might be in a better



than those of us fed gobbets of information prepared for do-

be downright unpatriotic. I am not saying she's guilty. It seems to me, too, that there is insufficient evidence to make such an assumption. but if she really is innocent, it won't be because she's British. Nor does it follow that justice Is done only when it's British justice. The banner headlines on Saturday's Mirror -"jailed by the system that freed OJ" — may be wonder-

that there are any more miscarriages of justice in US than in British courts.

There have been a mounting number of grambling criticisms of the Prime Minister's refusal to get involved. Too right he won't it would be the most terrible impertinence. Of course, we are obliged to presume people innocent - but only until they are found guilty. The one undeniable offence to justice seemed to me the "noose or

chosen by Miss Woodward's own lawyers. That itself had to make a mockery of the jury's decision, because whether she killed Matthew Eappen or not, the one thing we can be sure of is that it wasn't a premeditated crime, so couldn't have been, in legal terms, murder. But she, or those defending her, took that gamble. They lost. Perhaps they'll win at appeal; at time

of writing, it is undecided.

It is truly dreadful that a 19year-old girl who, whatever she did do, never intended to kill anyone should be sent to jail for 15 years. I feel for her family. But a national heroine she ain't, or shouldn't be. For all that, I suspect that next there will be a public state-ment on her behalf by the Spice Girls. Then Innocent

#### fully emotive, and not entirely position to judge the matter Children only want the facts

TM NOT sure why it's on my bookshelves rather than his, but for some reason I am the custodian of the book which was my brother's favourite when he was a child. It's a slim thing titled, quite simply, The Boys Book of Facts. And that's what it is: page after page of all the facts that a boy was expected to have at his inkstained

fingertips in the early Sixties. More: they are the facts that every boy wanted to have to hand, the facts which not only gave him a sense of the world in which he lived (in those days, a world in which boys were the sole guardians of knowledge, but also were the standard currency of the playground. It was an age when some sort of status still accrued to the boy who knew the most world capitals

or who could name Jupiter's moons. No longer. These facts have no currency and narrative is all. Or, at least, not if you are in charge of the schedules for children's television where, according to

the Broadcasting Standards Commission. factual programming has fallen to just 2 per cent of all children's viewing, including satellite and cable, and more than a third of that output comprises simpleminded animations of the Scooby-Doo and Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

The excuse for running bad adult television is that it's what the public wants: children's schedulers have no such excuse because children, generally speaking, have to take what they're given. And the only reason they're given badly

drawn, semi-animated American cartoons in which the plot is repeated episode after episode (has there ever been an episode of Scooby-Doo in which the masks weren't pulled from the heads of the fake ghosts in the last scene?) is because they are incredibly cheap to buy in. What other possible justification could there be for screening these trashy stories?

The tragedy is that the schedulers have convinced themselves that cartoons really are exclusively what children want. If they looked a little further when they went on their buying sprees in America they'd find that American schedulers have started to understand that children still have a fascination with facts -- which is why Nickelodeon, the main children's cable and satellite channel and the producer of some of the more intelligent animations, has also started producing intelligent and entertaining children's

shows full of boastable facts and figures. They may be facts with American accents, but given the choice between them and the American accented Scooby-Doo, I know which I'd take.

And children, who don't make the distinction between education and entertainment in the lazy way we do, would fail even to see why they have to make the

#### In Short, the **Government's** great asset

BEFORE the election, when the only thing Tony Blair was afraid of was being complacent. Clare Short was considered a liability. Honest to a fault and therefore politically dangerous - that was the silly one to make: those who speak their minds do not generally make successful politicians.

But Short is turning out to be a fabulous exception to this rule. Far from being a liability, she is turning out to be one of the Government's greatest assets. When I've heard her recently, on the subject of disaster relief in Montserrat and, at the weekend, discussing foreign aid and Third World child labour, her qualities shone out. She won't be tripped up and she won't be embarrassed. Unlike many of us on the left, she is not anxious to sound nice-nicenice. Being a good person, she good. This in itself is a relief.

But most of all, she is eminently sensible: she knows the difference between what can be done and what ideally should be done, and concentrates on the former without losing sight of the latter. In Short, we have that rare thing. a radical pragmatist. I can't help wishing she were in charge of everything or. failing that, education. The children need her, schools need her. we need her. I don't wish to do down Mr Blunkett, but he could usefully be given that

other albatross, health. Blair always promised he would be more radical than anyone thought. The coming reshuffle, then, is his chance to prove and justify it in one.

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# My vision of an open Europe

George Soros prescribes a

British cure for the EU

s an idea, European A unity used to appeal to the hearts and minds of Europeans. But the reality is far less inspiring. What is the cause of this malaise? Can the European vision of the past 50 years be revitalised?

Europe's failures are often blamed on the fact that the union is an association of states, all tending to put their own interests ahead of the common weal. This is certainly true. But there is also a deeper, less obvious cause of Europe's troubles.

The EU is a rules-based vernment. This may sound like the rule of law, implying transparency and impartiality. In fact, the EU's rulemaking process is anything but transparent. Decisions of the Council of Ministers are just like treaties: difficult to reach and difficult to alter. The rules that emerge are often too detailed, too rigid, and inappropriate to changing circum-

But the real problem lies in the idea that social, economic and political reality can be mastered by general norms. Life is too complex and changeable to be governed by fixed rules. The Maastricht treaty, for example, detailed the conditions to be met and timetable to be followed in introducing a single currency. Few foresaw then that Europe would suffer a prolonged perlod of high unemployment. Reducing government spend-ing, as Maastricht demanded, is not the right policy in a recession. Admittedly, Europe's economies need to make emphasising reduced budget deficits probably prolonged

the recession. The flaws of Maastricht epitomise the belief that all problems can be managed if you enact enough rules. To have an independent central mon monetary policy and then have a stable pact that imposes rigid rules on fiscal policy deprives governments of the tools for macroeconomic management. What worries me most is that I don't see mechanisms for correcting

What unblinking commitment to governance by rules ignores is that our understanding is inherently imperfect: the perfect design for society is beyond our reach. We cannot devise a system to anticipate every contingency. We must content ourselves with the next best thing: a form of social organisation which falls short of perfection but is open to change and improvement. That is the idea of open society, and I would like to propose it as a new organising principle for the

The bureaucratic view of the EU, embodied in the Maastricht treaty, is a Cartesian. rationalist construct. It shares the problems of Descartes's faith in the supremacy of reason. For 50 years, Brussels bureaucrats moved with precise, logical steps, limiting their goals, and setting firm timetables. When one goal was reached it became obvious that another step was needed. Public support was then mobilised. Step by step, the union progressed to become

perhaps the greatest feat of social engineering in history. The limits of this construction were reached with the Maastricht treaty. The rigidity inherent in the euro means

that the common currency will have to be followed by a common fiscal policy, includ-ing a harmonisation of taxes on the earnings of capital. But such measures will be extremely unpopular. A common currency may end up destroying the European Union because its deficiencies cannot be corrected simply by

taking another step forward. It is time to change course. Since Descartes's time, we have had ample opportunity to discover that reason has its limitations. When I speak of Europe as an open society, I am thinking about coming to terms with our fallibility. Injecting a dose of British empiricism into Europe's Cartesian project could do the Continent a lot of good.

The idea of open society. with its commitment to freedom and social justice, can perhaps also give Europe a new sense of mission. During the Cold War, the presence of a common totalitarian enemy seemed to provide Europe with its moral purpose. But now that the communist menace has disappeared, the unity of the West is also disintegrating. The task before us is to reenergise Europe through an idea that inspires.

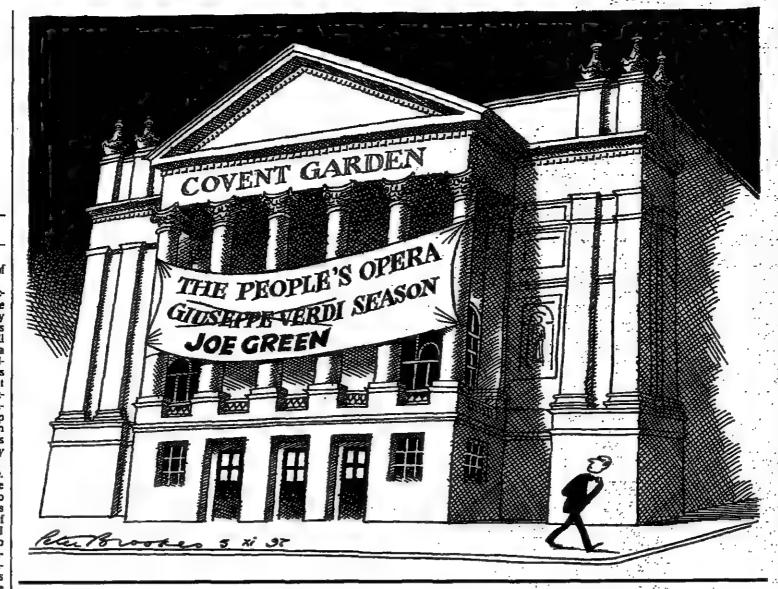
What would the EU look like as an open society? There would be a common market, common currency, and common fiscal policy, but also a government accountable to all its people. The federal European government can be ac-ceptable only if it is combined with the notion of subsidiarity. necessary to accommodate the rich cultural and national heritage of the continent.

Rights and independent judiciary, Europe would be even more likely to succeed than the United States as a prototype of open society. Its diverse nationalities, cultures and traditions are not too far removed from each other to be compatible. There is a reasonable balance between the states that compromise it. although after reunification Germany has become a little

too strong for comfort. Establishing a common vision above petty interests is of particular importance in European defence. Security is no longer tied to the interests of individual countries, as the Bosnian conflict demonstrates. The war there did not impinge on the national interests of any one country. Nevertheless, the passivity of the rest of Europe may have inflicted more damage to the common interest than any other event in recent history. It was griev-ously mishandled because it was not treated as an open-

society issue. It is for the people of Europe to decide exactly what kind of Europe they want. The EU as it is fails to meet their needs and aspirations. But what is imperfect can be improved This is what open society is all

The author is chairman of the Open Society Institute.



# It's a real bullet, Tosca

othing is sacred. The soft centre has not held and the West End. The Government intends that the Royal Opera and English National Opera should cohabit. They have blown too much money for too long to merit separate homes. The game is up. The fat lady has sung her last. The Royal Opera at Covent

Garden and the ENO at the Coliseum have been the Mutt and Jeff of British opera. They have been Marshall and Sneigrove. Cross & Black-well, Little and Large for as long as we can remember. The one has been for the toffs, the other for plebs. Covent Garden sings foreign, the Coliseum English. Covent Garden is champagne and smoked salmon, the Coliseum cheap wine and sweaty dive-bars. We emerge from Covent Garden smugly uplifted, brushing gilt dust from our shoulder. The Coliseum hurls us out into St Martin's Lane like so much

broiled offal. Both are chantries of pre-Reforma-tion public spending. I have enjoyed them too much not to shed a tear at their dissolution. Entertainers fool themselves when they think that the public goes to a theatre just to see their show. It also goes to experience a particular building. The rich go to Covent Garden to be seen at Covent Garden, to throng the Crush Bar, to enjoy the spirit of the place.

That is why audiences have col-

lapsed now that the Royal Opera is using other London venues during rebuilding. The places are wrong. Does anyone think Glyndebourne would survive for an unsubsidised minute if relocated where picnics were impossible? Half the pleasure of the Coliseum was to sit under its vast cream and maroon auditorium, beneath prancing horses and naked breasts, while tier upon tier swayed to Bellini and Offenbach. Half the point was to be "not Covent Garden". Both London opera companies are insolvent. Each has debts it cannot hope to pay back. The ENO is desperate, sitting on a 55 million deficit and losing money despite a £12 million subsidy. The Royal Opera is not just desperate, it is plunging into an abyss. It will lose £3 million this year and faces an accumulated deficit of £15 million on entering its new building in 1999. Years of mismanagement have come to this. London

opera has hit a wall of pain.

Opera directors have long regard-

Chris Smith's plans for London opera can only mean the death of ENO

ed such crises as completely normal. The procedure is to don sackcloth and ashes and demand money with menaces from the Arts Council, the Arts Minister and the Treasury. The great and good are invited to the Grand Tier. There is murmuring about centres of excellence, trickle-down and outreach. The jailer's knife raises over Florestan's neck. Suddenby the trumpet of salvation is heard offstage, the minister arrives and Fidelio's budget lives to sing another day. The metronome ticks off another

Yesterday something went badly wrong. Chris Secretary, has taken the opportunity

of Covent Garden's temporary closure to break the spell. Logic says that if two opera houses are both bankrupt, they had better become one. By sharing one building with the Royal

Ballet in the attic, a spare company can go touring the provinces. If the number hearing subsidised opera in London is to be halved, at least opera can be taken to people outside London. The Coliseum can be sold. The ENO must in future tell its middle-brow audience to visit its productions "at Covent Garden". Those seeking a cheese sandwich will find one in the basement of the Savoy. Assuming the proposal goes ahead, the outcome is clear. The

English National Opera company is being told to drink hemlock. Its team may survive awhile at the new Covent Garden, struggling to put together a "distinctive" Englishspeaking repertoire and taking it on tour. But surtitles have rendered this distinction obsolete. Audiences will going "to Covent Garden", to see particular operas, singers and productions. There is no sense in giving one label to some productions, another to others. To pay for separate opera overheads in one building, not to mention a separate orchestra and chorus, would be indefensible. Co-

habitation is a sop. The toffs The extravagance of the London

opera companies is legendary, well-illustrated in the BBC documentary. The House. Money simply pours out of the door in mysterious payments, lavish designs and stupelying ex-penses. We have no idea how much grand opera would cost in Central London if subjected to normal project management. We do not know what we would get, or how much would be lost artistically, if either the Coliseum or Covent Garden tried operating at lower levels of unit cost. No one has-

The same question was asked of Fleet Street newspapers in the 1970s. dom held that there was "only room" for

dared test the question.

three or four titles in London in future. Costs were fixed by union restrictive practices. The unions were happy to see the number of titles shrink, provided only that the

incomes of their surviving members were maintained. Unions are never concerned with numbers employed, only with average incomes of those in work, a syndrome that wiped out London's docks. It took exceptionally tough action by newspaper propri-etors in the mid-1980s to break this syndrome. As a result the number of titles stopped falling. Consumer choice was preserved, profits rose and cover prices fell.

Opera today is like Fleet Street yesterday. The entertainment business is notorious for restrictive practices, none more so than subsidised music. The absence of Covent Garden from the television, video or recording business, or from other forms of outreach, is shocking, given the size of its public subsidy. The unions forbid any reproduction of performances, except at prohibitive cost. Management and the Arts Council have acquiesced in this. Nobody knows how much money must have been lost as a result.

Instead of a competitive duopoly, we are to have a comfortable monopoly. Two companies that might have deserved a sentence of penal servitude have had a more drastic

sentence passed on them. One is to be

executed as a warning to the other. Government has lost patience. London opera is to be taken into care. It is to be nationalised. The Arts Council, always a mere pawn in Covent Garden's fist, has been swept aside. Whitehall will now expect to fund and direct the new Covent

Garden building.
This is good news for the Royal Opera. Institutions which govern-ment funds get away with financial murder, be they prisons, hospitals, navies or royal palaces. Covent Garden may be able to seize part of the ENO grant to save it from bankruptcy — before the Treasury gets wise to the fact that its grant to London opera should now be halved. The Royal Opera should receive not a penny until that company gets its unions in order and ends restrictive practices on broadcasting. The ENO orchestra and chorus must go and Covent Garden's own musicians and singers put on personal contracts.

This is seriously radical. The Government has tasted. blood. The message to other rogue elephants in London's arts jungle is awesome. The Royal Shakespeare and Royal National theatres are also competing with each other (and the private sector) at the taxpayer's expense. The logic of the Coliseum decision is that the RSC should sell the Barbican and merge with the RNT on the South Bank. Again, Mr Smith is subsidising five symphony orchestras in London (plus the two operas), all competing for a dwindling market of audiences There must be scope for cohabitation here. The South Bank board and its Festival Hall draw a bigger subsidy than the Coliseum, yet compete with the Albert Hall, the Wigmore Hall and the Barbican Hall. This looks

These are questions decent people have not been expected to ask. Decent people put their shoulder to the wheel and lobby like hell. They keep their heads down when the muck starts to fly, cut a deal with Whitehall behind the woodshed and sneak away with

their perks and gongs.

That script has been ripped apart. London's cultural institutions, used years of effortless equilibrium, e gone unstable. Grants are being cut. Boards are in turmoil. Budget are flying everywhere. And already the Treasury Scarpias are avenged. It was a real bullet. Tosca. The Coliseum is dead.

#### Alan Coren



And lo, quick as a flash, there came miracles on the road

To until last Monday morning, I had little in common with St Paul. The little was that I had also travelled the road to Damascus, but as nothing untoward happened in the way of flashing lights, visions, or miracles, you will I'm sure agree that things in common do not come much littler. But last Monday morning, they suddenly came much bigger. They came much bigger on the road to Cricklewood, where something untoward did happen in the way of flashing lights, visions and miracles.

Literally untoward, at that: which is to say that the flashing light appeared, in my rear-view mirror, a nano-second after I had driven past it in an untoward direction. It had not been a flashing light when I had ap-proached it in a toward direction, it had been a grey box on a stick; it became a flashing light only after I had passed it, because I had passed it too quickly, and it wanted a snap-shot of my departing number plate. This, of course, instantly became the first vision, as the number slowly materialised in Old Bill's developing fluid, only to be mudged aside by the second vision, a ratty letter inviting me either to submit my licence for defacement on a charge of belting down the A41 like a madman, or, in the event of my actually being a madman, to try to weasel my way out of it in court with a brilliantly argued defence packing the juridical wallop of a load of old cod, which would bring the beak tumbling from his bench and rolling around helplessly on the courtroom parquet until such time as he managed to struggle to his feet, wipe his eyes, and announce that he was throwing

the key away.

That being the third vision.

There was, however, a fourth as how could there not be, given that most of the rural weekend from which I was now speeding home had been given over to justice needed not only to be done, but to be televised to be done? I shan't elaborate, all your own weekends will have been spent jawing the selfsame issue to tatters. I wish merely to offer my vision of that inevitable day when, thanks to the exponential proliferation of TV channels and the dearth of anything to put on them, dozens will offer the daily doings of courts throughout the queendom. Will this affect justice? Who can say, but look, there is an old wag in the dock accused of speeding, he has retained Cherie Booth, George Carman and John Thaw, who, after six weeks, have triumphantly argued the selection of a jury of 12 old wags who own fast cars; and see, the queue of expert witnesses stretches around the block, each clutching a wad of money in one fist and, in the other, testimony written by a panel of Oscared scriptwriters which they will soon deliver to piped music composed for the occasion by Harrison Birtwistle. Might, then, the old wag get off with only a wigging? Almost certainly (and if so, he will

subsequently appeal successful-ly against the wigging on the grounds that it upset one of his grandchildren), but if the jury does accidentally find him guilty, the verdict is bound to be set aside following Dale Winton's tearful request to camera that viewers now ring one of two Freefone numbers, bearing in mind, as they dial, that the old wag not only has a hacking cough but also gives huge sums to Save the Children.

ow, there might have been even more to this last vision had it not of his said: "You realise you're committing an offence, sir?"

The present tense. Strange: 1 had, of course, been driving impeccably since the initial flash. I shook my head. He beckoned me to the rear of my car, and pointed. I stared. I may have recled. Because, the night before. I, along with all the other weekend guests, had parked in

our host's farmhouse
"It is illegal," he said, "to drive
with an illegible registration I took a cloth from the boot,

suddenly been interrupted, a couple of miles from home, by the miracle. Another flashing light had appeared in my mirror, blue this time. I pulled over. thinking: blimey, they're quick. they have found a place that does ten-minute processing, so I got out of the car and was preparing to scan the moist snapshot, fakely aghast, when the policeman who had got out

the muddy, rutted field outside

and wiped it clean. Thank you." I said.

Thank you, God.

# Grave concern

THE cemetery where Dodi Fayed's body was interred is being investigated by the local council amid suggestions of neglect by its owner. Brookwood cemetery in Surrey, the largest in Britain, gained international attention when the friend of Diana, Princess of Wales, was buried there within 24 hours of his death in Paris But his father. Mohamed Al Faved, caused surprise by moving the body to his nearby Oxted estate. The cemetery's owner. Ramadan Guney, is controversial.

The widow of Sir Thomas Beecham, the conductor, exhumed her husband's body in 1991 after seeing the shoddy state of his grave. The council responded by forcing Guney to "take remedial action".

Some locals remain unhappy. "I

have seen him clear large areas and re-sell the plots to different people," says Dorothy Richards. who was brought up by the cemetery ther father worked on the 450-acre site and has lived in a house there since. "Dodi's plot was in one of these newly-cleared areas." Al Faved selected Dodi's plot - a privilege for which Mr Guney charges extra. Mrs Richards continues: "Everything is in a terrible state. The grave of an old cemetery manager, George Lambert, who only died a few years ago, lies broken under an old

fireplace and television set." Such allegations are being taken seriously by Surrey County Coun-

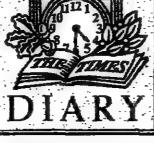


from both the religious authorities and the police," says Steve Lawrenson, from the planning office. "We are investigating." I telephoned Guney to float these points past him but he was "on

business" in Cyprus. His asso-

 LOCAL takeaways in Herts have failed to impress the American actors, Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman, while on location: they cil. "There has been a lot of concern order feed from London's trendy

ciates would not be drawn.

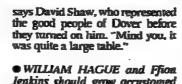


Nobu (average cost with delivery: 5300). "Their driver comes to collect or we send it in a taxi." says a kitchen voice. They're particu-larly fond of sahimi.

#### Vintage whine

IT IS the ultimate club for losers. After the Tories implosion last May, the Exiles was formed for casualties to dine, and occasionally whine. Recently the club's Phillip Oppenheim (formerly a dashing MP) organised a wake at the Savile Club. One of the cheeriest diners was Sir Jeremy Hanley, handing out business cards. There's life outside politics," chirped the former party chairman. There may be one or two who could do with some work, but most of them could not be busier."

"We all got round one table,"



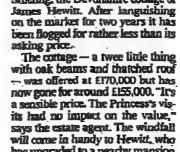
Jenkins should grow occustomed to married life while honeymooning next month in a £380-anight hotel suite in India. The room boasts its own "love swing".

## Sold at last

TALES of the Princess of Wales washing-up in his kitchen have



"I see the Tories have



done little to raise the value of The Shieling, the Devonshire cottage of

has upgraded to a nearby mansion on the proceeds of Anna Paster-nak's book, Princess in Love. His new pad could do with an MoT. • BRIAN IDDON, MP, will mark

the day by bringing gunpowder into Parliament — the first time since Guy Fawkes. A former science lecturer, he wants to publicise the importance of chemistry. Does the Serjeant at Arms know?

#### Late news

GROCERS, Princess Margaret has learnt rather late in life, like their supper on time. Saturday. found Lord Sainsbury of Preston Candover celebrating his 70th birthday with 350 close churns at the National Gallery. They had gathered around eight for a fourcourse feast in the Sainsbury



Wing, gallenes for which their host, with customary generosity, shelled out £30 million.

There was only one thing missing: the guest of honour, Princess Margaret, without whom dinner could not be served. Half past eight struck nine o'clock passed, and still she did not show. Eventually, at quarter past nine, she turned up. We were starving," says an impa-tient diner. The delay could have wreaked havoc with the sorbet."

JASPER GERARD



# THE GOOD EMUSCEPTICS

Which side really wants the best for Europe?

The Government has a new mission: to rid the country of Euroscepticism. The Labour/Liberal Democrat cabinet committee yesterday discussed how this battle was to be fought. By the evening, Gordon Brown had launched the first missile, in the Speciator/Allied Dunbar lecture. After a thoughtful and acute analysis of the historical roots of Britishness, the Chancellor went on to darnn the notion that being pro-British should be equated with being anti-Europe.

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Mr Brown is right to draw attention to Britain's outward-looking traditions. Though an island, this country has never been insular. Rather, its surrounding seas have provoked a national urge to explore, to trade and even, in the past, to conquer. Britain's foreign policy has always been one of engagement rather than isolationism, and of ensuring a balance of power in Europe.

The Chancellor's analysis of the post-Cold War era is also instructive. When the Soviet Union was Communist, Britain's instincts were closer to those of America than to those of anti-Nato France or pacifist West Germany. But these days there is no tension between being Atlanticist and pro-Euro-pean. Indeed, Britain's influence with Washington is enhanced by its influence in Europe and vice versa.

Where Mr Brown and his Labour and Lib Dem friends are on weaker ground is in equating Euroscepticism with anti-Europeanism. There is, and will always be, a vociferous but small section of the population and political classes that wants nothing to do with Europe. These people voted "no" in the 1975 referendum and would vote "no" again given the chance. They are, on the whole, suspicious of foreigners and happy to be called "little Englanders".

But there is another, more numerous, group of people who believe that Britain's future lies in Europe, but are unhappy with the way in which the European Union has developed. These people, many of whom are younger and more "modern" than Mr Brown, are sceptical not of Europe per se, but of a particular design for Europe which seems old-fashioned, rigid, cumbersome and antithetical to the interests not just of Britain but of continental countries too.

This Eurosceptic strand is not renophobic but internationalist. It wants Europe to be able to compete with the markets of the Par-East, not to retreat into an inward-looking and declining, possibly protectionist, club. This is a more up-to-date vision than the Mitterrand/Kohl one of heavy-handed integration and regulation. It sees Europe's future as being based on flexibility not rigidity. The EU needs to be light on its feet with not one interest rate and exchange rate for all but the ability to be responsive to individual countries' economic circumstances so as to maximise growth and prosperity.

Moreover, these modern Eurosceptics fear that the very danger that political and economic integration was designed to prevent - that of the rise of nationalism - may instead be enhanced by EMU. If high levels of unemployment are caused in the poorer countries by a one-size-fits-all interest rate, and if national politicians find themselves impotent to remedy it, far-right antidemocratic parties will reap the rewards. If taxpayers in richer countries are then expected forever to pay huge subsidies to poorer ones, xenophobia will take hold.

These Eurosceptics are often lumped together with anti-Europeans. Crude, xenophobic, old-fashioned slogans based on the presence of the Queen's head on the banknote obscure the far more cogent and intellectually respectable arguments of modern Euroscepticism. These are views to which Mr Brown and his colleagues should listen with respect, not begin a mission to destroy.

#### **EUROPE'S HIGHWAYMEN**

Blair should demand guards for convoys through France

France's lorry drivers have a right to withdraw their labour; that is a matter between them and their employers, with whom they have some genuine grievances to pursue. They can have no right deliberately to deprive other people of work and ruin farmers and industries throughout Europe. Their blockade of France is not strike action. but a war of economic sabotage. It is totally illegal, recklessly irresponsible and inflicts on its trading partners.

It is also supported by a majority of their compatriots. There is a curious symbiosis between French voters and their routiers which paralyses French governments almost as effectively as the drivers are once again choking Europe's arteries. A year ago, the centre-right Juppé Government tried to ignore-Operation Escargot, only to intervene in the end with promises of public money to help finance a settlement. The Socialist Opposition lined the barricades then, jeering and cheering. Those who ring the bells for illegality are justly condemned one day to wring their hands; but faced with a repeat performance, that is about all that the Socialists, now in government, are doing.

Like M Juppé before him, the French Prime Minister, Lionel Jospin, claims that the Government is "neutral". Since this is a private-sector dispute, such a hands-off approach would be both technically correct and, for French Socialists, surprisingly "new Labour". But the true picture is different. Ministers are stuck in this dispute up to the hilt. What M Jospin really means is that his Government dares not tackle what incluctibly does fall within the domain of the State; that is the responsibility to enforce the law, including the dismantling of roadblocks, so that others can go about their lawful

This is the point at which France's obligations transcend its frontiers. Because the country straddles the European Union's trade routes, it has a clear obligation under

the EU's single market not to obstruct the free movement of goods and people. The French Government implicitly recognised that last year, when it promised to pay compensation to foreign lorry drivers who found themselves stranded — although not to foreign farmers and industries which had suffered grave damage to their businesses. Most of that money has never been paid.

The French Transport Ministry claims not be policed. It adds, tellingly, that such action would "unset the strikers". There may be genuine difficulties in ordering the police to act, because many of them belong to the same Force Ouvrière union as the lorry drivers. But there is nothing to prevent the French military running guarded convoys through France. That would not solve France's domestic problem; but it would at least show good faith about meeting its obligations to its EU partners.

British, German and Spanish businesses stand to lose more than £600 million a week as a direct result of the chaos in France. Spanish farmers, who normally export 8,000 tonnes of highly perishable fruit and vegetables in the month of November, are particularly hard hit. Tomorrow, when President Chirac and M Jospin arrive in London for an Anglo-French summit, Tony Blair must demand guarded convoys as an absolute minimum short-term measure. He should also say that Britain will present a full bill for damages, and will insist that the European Commission takes France to court

for breaching the Single European Act. External pressure should not be required. M Jospin knows that if this confrontation drags on, the damage to France's economic growth will upset his strategy for monetary union. The long-term solution must lie in curbing France's small but highly politicised unions. But that is something which no postwar French Government has nerved itself to do. France thinks of itself as the true heart of Europe, it badly needs bypass surgery...

#### CIRCLING THE SQUARE

Trafalgar Square can be a traffic-free model for other cities

The city square is at the heart of traditional urban life, a place for citizens to stroll and mingle, to idle and admire. For the tourist, London is one of the most attractive capitals in Europe. Its theatres and restaurants, museums and parks are enjoyed by millions of visitors each year. Yet the historical hub of the city. Trafalgar Square and its environs, is snarled with traffic. It has become an inhospitable, offensive place. Pedestrians huddle on narrow pavements or stand marconed on polluted islands.

Today Westminster City Council launches a three-day public consultation on ways to improve matters. Sir Norman Foster, working in partnership with a host of transport consultants, urban planners and landscape designers, has come up with two principal strategies for the area around Trafalgar Square, Whitehall and the Houses of Parliament. In a free exhibition at the Royal United Services Institute in Whitehall, the public is invited to view these plans and

make recommendations. Traffic is the biggest single challenge. Londoners instinctively deplore the congestion which pedestrian areas produce. Road closure in one place has an inevitable effect on adjacent streets. Certain measures can be taken to redress this ring roads can

discourage through-traffic from entering the city; deliveries can be limited to off-peak hours. But, if World Squares For All is to mark the beginning of a better urban environment for central London, the habits of motorists will have to change too. The Government will need to invest heavily in improved public transport.

Another challenge is to prevent newly pedestrianised areas developing into illkempt haunts of vagrants. This depends critically on the environment and its attractions. Trashy souvenir stands, aggressive beggars, amusement arcades and fastfood chains could quickly recreate the squalor of Leicester Square. High standards in street furniture should be demanded. Simplicity of design will concentrate the eye on the many Grade I listed buildings in the area, as well as making it easier to police.

London has already created successful pedestrian areas. In Covent Garden, citizens and tourists mingle in the cafés and shops of the Piazza. But Trafalgar Square will be an even greater test. If its problems can be imaginatively solved, it will serve as a model for other cities. Londoners should take the trouble to visit the exhibition and make their comments. But they would be advised to leave their cars behind.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

#### Case for joining the single currency is 'seriously flawed'

From Sir Michael Edwardes

Sir, Michael Heseltine and his splinter group have every right to argue their case ('Old men forget", leading article, October 31), even though it is seriously flawed. Those of us who believe that it is not in Britzin's economic interests to join the single currency welcome a full debate, for this is the only way that the downside will become apparent.

Proponents of joining a single currency have avoided a number of issues which might now emerge. For example, Germany, France and Italy have massive unfunded pension commitments running into billions of marks, francs, lira and euros. This liability for the future, exacerbated by an ageing population, is often ignored.

If we join EMU, we will over time inherit the European socio-industrial cost base. For every £100 of wages in Britain, our non-wage labour cost is a reasonable El8. Germany's on-cost is no less then £32, and in France and Italy it is substantially higher. Given that only 25 per cent of our world trade is with the core EU countries. how are we to compete with and in the Americas, the Far East, the Commonwealth and Britain itself?

If we hand over the levers of economic power to a Central Bank in Frankfurt, the unemployment problem will require to be solved by job mobility: how is this to be dealt with in twelve languages? How, too, will we handle the convergence issue? Britain's global trading interests create an economic cycle which is seldom convergent with continental Europe, and even if convergence is achieved at a point in time, this is like the flash of a camera; the economic cycle moves inexorably onwards. At the present time we are diverging further, as indeed we have been since we joined the Common Market in 1972: give away our control of interest rates, inflation and economic growth, and the variable becomes unemployment with all its stresses and strains.

There are no good reasons for joining the single currency and do not let Mr Heseltine's splinter group per-

suade you that "business is in favour". The pressure for joining does not come from the bulk of the business community, but from a small group of multinationals which have had their own agenda and disproportionate influence within the CBI.

Yours truly, MICHAEL EDWARDES Chloride Group, 1969-77 and 1986; British Leyland, 1977-82; ICL, 1984; Dunlop, 1984-85; Charter, 1988-96).

15 Woodfall Street, Chelsea, SW3.

From Mrs Gillian Bardinet

Sir, British preoccupation with the economic and business implications of a single currency is perfectly logical, but far removed from the mood in France, where the words "act of faith" can be heard to describe the forth-

coming great leap.
Indeed, the whole concept of EMU was conceived less as an economic target per se than as an indispensable springboard to political union, as two founding fathers, Giscard d'Estaing and Helmut Schmidt, have pointed out in a jointly written article published in the International Herald Tribune (October 14).

Yours sincerely GILLIAN BARDINET (Maître de Conférences, Institute of Political Studies, Paris). 21 Rue Saint-Honoré, 78000 Versailles. November 3.

From Mr David Clarke

Sir, Michael Heseltine and Kenneth Clarke, as the two leading ministers of the last Conservative Government, bear a large responsibility for the worst electoral defeat the Tory party has had in a hundred years. As you rightly suggest in your leading article of October 31, one would have thought then they would have had the decency to keep quiet for a while.

They were wrong on so many major issues, ranging from lack of support for Margaret Thatcher to their eagerness to join the ERM. Why should the country listen to them now? They are yesterday's men — thank goodness. Yours faithfully.

DAVID CLARKE, Woodlands. Marsham Lane. Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire.

From Mr Michael Ivens

CBI and TUC as allies in advocating swift progress to monetary union cuts little ice with Aims of Industry. We were against both organisations when we campaigned for bringing trade

The supporters of EMU are working hard to indicate its virtues - of which there are a few. The public also need to know of the dangers - of

which there are many,

Yours. MICHAEL IVENS 2 Mulgrave Road, NW10.

From Mr Michael Thompson

Sir. One can derive a certain wry

It can only be hoped that they will prove more effective than their recent long governance might suggest, the current value of the pound being approximately three and a half packets of crisps.

70 years and are not dependent on

whale meat and other whale products

for their survival, do not fall into that

If the Makah Indians go ahead and

kill grey whales, despite the failure of

the US delegation to secure authorisa-

tion from the IWC to do so, this will be

interpreted by most of the TWC mem-

which is not allowed under an existing

The US will be deemed by them to

be whaling illegally, in defiance of the

ban and of overwhelming public

TWC barr.

opinion.

Yours faithfully,

ALISON SMITH,

Conservation Director,

James Street West, Bath.

Whale and Dolphin

Conservation Society.

Alexander House,

October 24.

Hawthome Hill. November 1.

#### Press freedom

From the Executive Chairman of News International

Sir, May I take rare advantage of this column by adding support for your leader today about the dangers to press freedom from some aspects of the European Convention on Human

The Lord Chancellor's statement that press freedom will be in "the safe hands of British judges" is not reassuring. British judges have a history of idiosyncratic behaviour in their media decisions and many of them famously admit to being out of touch with popular culture. Yet it will be judges who must identify the public interest for all strata of society. Judges will decide what we may or may not read. listen to or view, and their decisions will be based on their own, often narrow and out of date experiences.

Privacy in this country is protected by various statutes, by the Press Complaints Commission and the Broadcasting Standards Council. This combination can and does evolve to mirror public feeling and the judges should be told that Britain does not require a common law right to privacy and that the courts must uphold free-

dom of expression. LESLIE HINTON. Executive Chairman. News International pic. l Virginia Street, El. November 4.

#### Wheels under fire

From Mr Matt Wenham

Sir, Professor Emeritus Felix Weinberg (letter, November 3) is quite correct when he states that the top of a bicycle wheel must travel forward at twice the speed of the bike. However, since the tyre is horizontal at the top its radar signature will be very small.

Even accounting for reflections from the spokes at the top of the wheel and the forward travelling foot and pedal, it is highly likely that the remainder of the cycle and the rider would account for the majority of the chicle's radar signature.

Therefore, speed measurements of bicycles made with radar guns are likely to be as accurate as for any other vehicle.

Yours faithfully, MATT WENHAM (Physics graduate). 2 Lauriston Place, Cambridge. mattw@earthling.net

#### Care of countryside

From Mr K. A. McDougall

Sir, Sir Chris Bonington and others (letter, October 30) continue to feel aggrieved and threatened by any extension of military training in the UK. My experience is that military train-

ing areas are havens for wildlife which quickly adapts to the crumps and bangs and prefers these to the remorseless tramp of ramblers. Are we talking about access or biodiversity?

Yours faithfully, K. A. McDOUGALL Hill House, Bridge Street, Stiffkey, Wells-next-the-Sea, Norfolk,

#### Whaling dispute

of the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society

The only people authorised by the IWC to kill grey whales are those whose traditional aboriginal subsistence and cultural needs have been recognised". The Makah Indians, who have not humted whales for over

#### Life force

From Professor Rhys Williams Sir, The Reverend Philip White (letter, October 29) is certainly correct that

100 per cent of us die, whether we are churchgoers or not. However, this 100 per cent is not a death rate: it is a proportion. A rate

refers to the frequency with which things happen (like a heart rate - the frequency with which a heart beats A death rate is, therefore, the frequency with which deaths occur in a

given population, not the proportion of people in that population who will die. The observation that the death rate of churchgoers is "significantly lower than average" is not a consequence of a lower proportion of them being mortal but of the fact that their mortal natures "put on immortality" at a lower rate than expected. In other words, that individuals in this population live, on average,

longer than would be expected. I hope this explanation is clear and that you do not consider it too stuffy and boring.

Yours sincerely. RHYS WILLIAMS (Professor of Epidemiology and Public Heath). Nuffield Institute for Health, 71-75 Clarendon Road. Leeds, West Yorkshire.

#### Common sacrifice

From Mr Stewart Rigby

Sir, You report today that the Royal British Legion could not understand why homosexual groups should wish to observe their own commemoration as they did at the Cenotaph yesterday. Apparently this was "an offence".

in that case could the Legion please explain why they have no difficulty with Jewish and other "minority groups" mounting their own, equally separate, commemorations?

Can't they simply accept the diver-sity of mankind and the shared wish to honour, albeit in different ways, the common sacrifice of those who fought for their country?

Yours sincerely. STEWART RIGBY. 13 Boyne Road, SE13. November 1.

Sir, The Heseltine/Clarke citing of the

unions within the law.
It is not true that all the big firms support EMU. Many don't. And the majority of small firms fear the impact of a single currency on their

We should be aware of the dangers, not only to the UK but also to the European countries which rush to ioin.

(Consultant, Aims of Industry),

amusement from the stated aim of the newly "bonded" Conservatives to

defend the pound.

Yours sincerely, MICHAEL THOMPSON, Whitmore, Staffordshire.

From the Conservation Director

Sir. Contrary to your report of October 24, headed "Indian tribe is allowed to kill whales again", we cannot agree that the International Whaling Commission has given the Makah Indians of Washington State permission to kill grey whales.

As the Australian delegation made clear in a statement issued after the IWC meeting at which the matter was discussed, most of the delegations to the Monaco conference were opposed

#### Prayers and pints

From Mr Richard Starkey and Mrs Leslevanne Bownes

Sir, In 1641 Henry Ewer gave a yearly rent charge of ten shillings (50p) on a house on the present site of The Black Horse pub, South Mirams, for the vicar to preach a Good Friday sermon (letters, October 22, November 1). On the evening of Good Friday 1936, the Reverend Hey, realising that

most of his congregation were in The Black Horse, proceeded down the hill to carry out the full act of worship in This practice is still carried out, the vicar ringing time on "service" at the bar and replacing it by a "service" of a more ecclesiastical nature. We still pay the ten shillings to the church,

valued it, and computerisation has made it necessary to raise a cheque for one pound every two years. The congregation and regulars are concerned about the 1998 service, as our vicar has moved on to pastures new and we are without a regular deric. However, we are sure that by then

although time has somewhat de-

God will provide. Yours faithfully. R. STARKEY, L. BOWNESS (licensees). The Black Horse, South Mimms, Hertfordshire. blackhsm@aol.com November 3.

#### I bank therefore ...

From Mrs Irene Draper

Sir. I have recently received from an insurance company a request for me to have authorised a "certificate of existence". They kindly suggest that I apply to my bank branch, or to my local post office.

Since I buy my stamps at the newsagent and have loyally stuck to my Aberdeen bank, now 500 miles away - I usually get my money from a hole in the wall - I am in a quandary.

Yours faithfully. TRENE DRAPER. Maynestay, Cathrook, Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire.

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

#### Compassion for the unborn child

From the Reverend Iver Martin

Sir, Professor James Drife (letter, October 29) suggests that the Church believes those involved in abortion at first hand to be demons. He further suggests that the Church is more concerned to preach at pregnant women and then leave them to risk death rather than help them. This is both

untrue and unfair. Furthermore, the focus of his attention is placed upon the pregnant woman, but the human life in her womb is ignored. He refers to the 30 women who annually died as a result of septic abortion in the 1960s, but makes no reference to the almost 5 million children who have since died

as a result of legal abortion. Professor Drife appears to justify abortion on the basis that most of the one in four women under 25 having abortion for the first time will never seek another one. But what if a similar statistic existed with respect to those who have murdered for the first time? Would that make murder any less

Finally, Professor Drife accuses the clergy of regarding women as objects of debate. Any Church that follows the example of Christ will treat people with the same compassion that he demonstrated, and that includes women coming to terms with the guilt and trauma of abortion. But the Church also has a duty to tell the whole truth. It must cry aloud in defence of the innocent unborn and protest to both government and public, and plead with them finally to bring an end to this horror.

Yours faithfully. IVER MARTIN (Minister, Bon Accord Free Church). 77 Forest Avenue, Aberdeen. October 30.

From Monsignor Vincent Turnbull

Sir, Cardinal Basil Hume (report, October 27) is a deeply sensitive and com-passionate man. To suggest otherwise

is to do him a grave injustice. Cardinals, bishops and priests do indeed know from experience that ethical issues often become less simple when one understands all the facts", to quote Professor Drife. The professor, however, misses an essential point when he . " hn viii, II. lesus, out of compassion. Sused to condemn the adulterous woman, as the Pharisees sought. But crucially he did not condone her wrongdoing; his words "go and sin no more" make that

Abortion is wrong in principle because it is the destruction of an innocent human life. No amount of compassion can alter that fundamental principle. It is unacceptable to do what is wrong in order that good, no matter how great, may come of it. To think otherwise is a recipe for moral chaos and confusion, which is what

we have in the abortion scene today. Professor Drife must surely know that risk of death or of septic abortion is not the reality in the vast majority of abortion situations today. Where is his compassion for the unborn child?

Yours sincerely.
VINCENT TURNBULL (Parish priest), St Catherine's Church, Birkenhead Road. Hoylake, Wirral, Merseyside. October 30.

Language 'tsar'

From Mr Michael Heaney Sir, Mr Peter Hall fletter, October 311 asks for an appropriate English word to convey adequately the status or function of the holder of the important office of "language usar". I believe the word he seeks is "pedant".

Yours faithfully, MICHAEL HÉANEY, 5 Hanborough Close, Eynsham, Witney, Oxfordshire. michael.heaney@ulib.ox.ac.uk October 31.

Sir, Surely the only expression which

would evoke the same sense of absolute power and authority today would be "language minister without portfolio".

From Mr Sohail Rasul

Yours faithfully. S. RASUL, 58 Westbury Road. New Malden, Surrey.

From Mr Gerald Moggridge Sir, How about "bossyboots"?

GERALD MOGGRIDGE. 29 Rossdale, Sutton, Surrey.

Yours faithfully,

From Mrs Adele Kitrick Sir, Mr Peter Hall is right to deplore the use of the word "tsar". As someone once said, there is no

need to borrow foreign words, Eng-

lish will always provide the mot juste. Yours faithfully, A. A. KITRICK, 26 Warwick Road,

St Albans, Hertfordshire. From Mr Geoffrey Payne

Sir, Why not have a language Pope, since intallibility is likely to come into it.

Yours faithfully, GEOFFREY PAYNE. 4 Hales Place, Dresden. Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

ه کذا مزار لاصل



#### **COURT CIRCULAR**

flew to Cape Town this morning and

thew to Cape Town this morning and
was received by the Premier of the
Western Cape (Mr Hernus Krier).
His Royal Highness this afternoon
visited a community policing project
in Nyanga township.
The Pruce of Wales increviated the

project.
His Royal Highness afterwards officially opened the British Council offices in Cape Town and met British Council staff and Chevening

received Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi (South African Minister of Home

His Royal Highness later visited tellenberg Farmsteed. The Prince of Wales this evening

attended a State Dinner given by President Mandels at the Tuynhuys.

KENSINGTON PALACE November 4: The Princess Margare

National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, this afternoon attended the Society's Home Counties

Region Luncheon at Cliveden in aid of the Regional Investigation Unit and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Leutenant of Buckinghamshire (Sir Nigel Mobbs).

KENSINGTON PALACE

November 4: The Dake of Glouceser this morning opened the Resource Centre, Derby University, and was

His Royal Highmess later opened the new Derby Independent Gram-mar School for Boys.

The Duke of Gloucester, Grand

Prior, the Order of St John, this afternoon visited the St John Arg-bulance Headquarters, Chesterfield.
His Royal Highness afterwards visited Ash Green Specialist Learning

Disability Service Centre, Chererheld.

the London Playing Fields Society, this evening attended a Dinner to mark twenty one years at Patron of

the Society at the Savoy Hotel, London WC2. VORK HOUSE

November 4: The Duke of Kent, President of the Council, King Edward VII Hospital for Officers, this morning presided over a council meeting at Beaumont Street, London

**Premium Bonds** 

The following Premium Bond prize

winners were announced yesterday

357610, £17,080, Merseynide.

180,000: 39GP 913466, £18,700,
3erkshire; 1257 855042, £11,120,
5tarfordshire; 68HL 349382, £3,350,
Exect 57NW 128054, £10,000,
Hertfordshire; 36RB 803393, £1,035,
Tyne & Wear; 93D7 206280, £10,000,
5urrsy; 27NK 001301, £20,000, £sser;
£157 484978, £5,103, Nottinghamhire; 45VS 668444, £101,
Oxfordshire; 45UZ 623327, £20,000,
West Midlands.

Oxfordshire, 4002 623327, 620,000, West Midlands.

125,000: 190K 009187, 420,000, 170 & Wear, 25Kl 016241, L1.312, London Borough of Haringey, 560F 627660, Ct. 700, East Susser; 58FW 280468, 14.350, Hereford & Worcester, 52ET 04839, Ct. 228, Bedfordshire, 621E 295022, 116.050, Burrey, 2007 256765, 110.000, West Midlands; 55JS 036778 115.000, North Yorkshire, 76EB 685068, 120.000, Middleser, 23DN 03532, 220.000, East Susser; 41JH 513548, 120.000, Esser; 47JW 176278, 120.000, Kent. 69KN 388153, 220.000, Lincoinshire, 80KL 528669, 120.000, Lincoinshire, 80KL 528669, 120.000, Lincoinshire, 10KL 40787, 1591, Surrey, 2BB 444175, L8, Oxfordshire; 35SW 717566, 120.000, Derbyshire.

Service luncheon

General Sir Martin Faradale, President of the 2nd Division Luncheum Club, presided at a luncheon held yesterday at the Cavalry and Guards Club. Major-General C.D. Parrar-Hockley, Commander 2nd Division, was the filled most and stranger.

2nd Division Luncheon Club

The Duke of Chaucester, Patron,

The Prince of Wales subs

November 4: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace The Earl of Airlie KT (Lord

Chamberlain) had an audience of Her Majesty and presented an Address from the House of Lords to

which The Queen was graciously pleased to make reply. The Rt Hon Tony Blair MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of Her

Majesty this evening.
The Duke of Edinburgh, Founder and Chairman of the International Trustees of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association, to-day attended the Sixth International day attended the Sixth International
Award Forum of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association in Wellington, New Zealand.
Lady Dugdale has succeeded the
Hon Mary Morrison as Lady in
Waiting to The Queen.
November 4: The Prince Edward,
Trustee and Chairman of the Inter-

burgh's Award International Association, continued his visit to Wellington, New Zealand, for the Sixth International Award Forum, His Royal Highness today atended the Forum in the Michael

Later this afternoon The Prince Edward visited the St Junes Theatre

to review the renovation.

His Royal Highness this evening attended the Forum Reception and Dinner in the Michael Fowler Centre. Drinner in the Nuclear Cover Center.

November 4: The Princess Royal.

Patron, the Butler Trust, this morning visited Her Majesty's Prison

Perth, Edinburgh Road, Perth, and

was received by Her Majesty's Lord
Leurenant of Perth and Karross (Sir

David Montenmers, Bit

David Montgomery Bt).

Her Royal Highnest, Patron.
SENSE — the National Dearblind and Rubella Association, this after-Westport, Dundee, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Dundee (Mr Mervyn Rolfe, the Land Provesti.

CLARENCE HOUSE

November 4: Mrs Michael Gordon-Lennox has succeeded Miss Jane
Walker-Okeover as Lady in Waiting

ember 4: The Prince of Wales

The Princess Royal, as president, save the Children Fund, will attend Christmas in November, Littlewood Park, Alford, Aberdeenshire, at 12.30; as president, British Knining and Clothing Export Council, will visit Harley & Co (Peterhead), 44 Queen Street, Peterhead, at 2.45; and will visit their shop at 252a Union Street, at 4.25. Later, she will attend a Reel Party, Elphinstone Hall, Aberdeen University, at 8.00.

Princess Margaret will attend an

of the Dysleida Institute, Christle's, King Street, SWI, at 8.00.

The Duchess of Gloucester, as pe-

tron, Counsel and Care (Advice and Help for Older People), will attend a luncheon at the House of Lords, at

The Duke of Kent, as vice-chairman,

British Overseas Trade Board, will visit Rover Group, Cowley, at 10.30. will visit the Medawar Centre, Ox-

ford, 1.40; and Sharp Laborauries of Europe, Oxford Science Park, Littlemore, Oxford, at 2.15.

Memorial

The Hon Arms Ploydes

A service of thanksgiving for the life of the Hon Anna Plowden,

restorer and conservationist, was

held yesterday at St James's, Piccadilly. The Rev Donald Reeves

officiated. Mr Kevin Smith, Ms

Carole Milner and Lord Lester of

service

Today's royal

engagements

#### **Dinners**

London Playing Fields Society
The Duke of Gloucester, Patron of
the London Playing Fields Society,
was the principal speaker at a
dinner held last night at the Savoy
Hotel to mark his 21 years as
patron of the society. Field Marshal Lord Bramall, KG, president,
who presided and Mr. Better, No. who presided and Mr Peter Nathan, chairman, also spoke.

man, chairman, also spoke.

Among others present were:
Lady Bramail, Mrs Nathan, Sir
Christopher and Lady Slade. Sir
Brian and Lady Goswell, Sir Peter and
Lady Parranton, Sir John Zochonis,
the Mayors and Mayoresses of
Merson, Redbridge and Waitham
Forest. Dr and Mrs Chades
Goodson-Wichz, Mr Domplas insole
and Mrs and Mrs Andrew Water.

Institute of Activaties Lord Bingham of Cornhill, Lord Chief Justice, was the principal guest at the biennial dinner of the Institute of Actuaries held last night at Grosvenor House. Mr Duncan Ferguson, president, also

Masons' Compar Masons' Company
Mr Sandy Copland, Master of the
Masons' Company, presided at
the annual livery dinner held last
night at Mercers' Hall. Mr Douglas Imrie-Brown, Master of the
Restatunchers' Company and Ma-Basketmakers Company and Ma-jor-General Viscount Monckton of Brenchley were the principa guests. Among others presen

The Missers of the Mercery, Cooler and Broderery Companies, Senior Officers of the Corps of Royal Engineers, the Director and Senior Instructor of the Building Crafts College and senior representatives of the congruence in the senior of the Conference of the Senior of the Senior of the Senior of the Senior of the Conference of the Con Company of Coarianaker, and

Coach Haroom Makers

Mr Robert Croall, Master of the Company of Coachmakers and Coach Harness Makers, presided at the annual Aircraft Industry dinner held last night at Plaisterers' Hall. Liveryman Dr Stephen Hammerton, Liveryman Group Captain Brian Symes and Mr David Marshall, Director General, Society of British Aerospace Companies, also spoke. Mr David Marshall, Air Chief Marshal Sir David Cousins and Mr Michael Marshall were the prin-

During the evening the Master presented awards to Mr David Perigo and Mr Simon Prince, the company's 1997 Eric Beverley Bursary winners.

Royal Pharamountical Society of Great Britain Mr Peter Curphey, President of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, presided at a dinner held last night at | Lambeth High Street. Dr June Crown also spoke.

Street. Dr Jume Crown also spoke.
Among those present were
Baroness Hooper, the Vice-Chairman of the All Pary Pharmaceutical
Industry Group, Sir Bernard
Tomilinson, the President Designate
of the Association of the Bittub
Pharmaceutical Industry, the
President of the Pharmaceutical
Society of trained, the President, the
Vice-President and the Secretary of
the Pharmaceutical Society of
Northern Ireland, the President of
the British Pharmaceutical Sudenty
Association, the Chairman of the
Wester Esseutive, the Chairman of
the Scottish Essecutive, the Director
of Hanning, NHS Esseutive,
Department of Health, the Treasury
Minister of the Life of Man
Gavernment, the Managing Director
of Books the Chemitr and the
Chairman of the Cuild of Health
Witers.
University Women's Clab

University Women's Chab Dr Ann Walker, of Reading University, was the speaker at a dinner of the University Women's Club held yesterday at 2 Andley Square, London, Mrs Wendy Brandon, chairperson, presided.

#### Baroness Nicholson of Winterbourne

The life barony conferred upon Miss Emma Harrist Nicholson has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baroness Nichol-son of Winterbourne, of Winterbourne in the Royal County of Berkahlara

#### **Baron Bassam** of Brighton

The life barony conferred upon Mr John Steven Bassam has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Barron Bassam of Brighton, of Brighton in the County of East Sussen.



Sir Dominic Cadbury, chairman of Cadbury Schweppes, with his wife Sally and ughters Justine (left) and Georgina, and the insignia of the knighthood he received from the Queen at a Buckingham Palace investiture yesterday

#### RHS flower show

#### Frosts take the heat out of autumn's fiery tints

BY ALAN TOOGOOD, BORTICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

IT IS NOT a good year for autumn leaf colour as the recent severe frosts in many areas have browned much of the foliage rather than encouraged fiery tints. However, some has been salvaged to give the Royal Horticultural Society's

Much of the colour comes from a collection of oaks included in a display of trees and shrubs from Bluebell Nursery, of Smisby, Leicestershire. Some of the most tenesserstate. Some of the most eye-catching are Quercus palustris "Swamp Pygny" (flame shades), Q. falcata "Pagodifolia" (crimson), Q. pyrenaica "Pendula" (rich yellow), and Q. phellos (crimson). One of the gold medalliss. Burncoose Nurseries, of Redruth Cornwall, has included autumna less and flower colour in a frame work of equally colourful ever-green shrubs including Elacognus x ebbings: "Gilt Edge" with bright yellow variegated leaves. Another gold medallist, Linciu-

Anomer gots measure, Lincu-den Nursery, of Bisley Green, Surrey, is creating colour with conters which range from a bright yellow Nordmann fir, Abies nordmanniana "Golden Spreader", to the new dwarf copper-tinued coni-fer, Podocarpus "County Park

Although hardy. not relish frosts, which can daminously frosts Winkworth Arbo Horn to Span.

Anniversaries

BIKTHS: Hans Sachs, poet and

dramatist, Nüremberg, 1494; James Elroy Flecker, poet, London,

1884: John Burdon Haldane,

physiologist and genericist, Bhubaneswar, India, 1892; Vivien

Leigh, actress, Darjeeling, India,

DEATHS: Pierre Choderios de

Lacios, soldier, author of Les

Lacios, solder, author of Lac Liaisons Dangereuses, Tarenso, Italy, 1803: George M. Cohan, actor and song writer, New York, 1942: Maurice Utrillo, painter, Le Vesinet, 1955; Mack Sennett, cre-ator of the Keystone Cops films, Hollywood, 1960: Jacques Tati, actor and film director, 1982:

Eamonn Andrews, broadcaster, London, 1987; Vladimir Horowitz,

pianist, Manhattan, New York, 1989.

age the flowers, so are best grown in a very sheltered position out of doors or in a cool conservancy. What is thought to be the first ever exhibit of these camellias at a Westminster show has been staged by Coghurst Nursery, of Three Oaks, East Sussex, Robbing shoul-ders with old and well-known cultivars are Paradise camellias, a new range of fragrant cultivary bred in Australia, even more in

need of frost protection. Omamental grasses and grasslike plants are in vogue and not only are they providers of summer interest but many create an impact in autumn with subtle foliage units and seed heads, as several exhibitors are demonstrating. Southcombs Gardens, of Kenton, Devon, have combined them with autumn-flowering perennials, and the Miscanthus sinusis "Sirene" with corn yellow leaves and silvery seed heads forms an impressive centrepiece on the stand of Cottage Garden Plants, of Cuckfield, Sussex. Forgrove plants are featuring grassy carex or ornamental sadges, ranging from the bronze Carex comans to yellow and green striped C. oshimensis "Evergold". The RHS ornamental plants

competition is not too well sup-ported with autumnal foliage box s strong on autumnal fruits and

return, of Godalming, Surrey, has won the Stephenson R. Clarke cup for four trees and shrubs with autumnal fruits (Sorbus sargentianumnai irus (sorous surgent-ana, Cotoneosser "Curmuisa", Crataegus x (avallei "Carrierel", and Cornus kousa), and the class for four trees and shrubs with autumnal foliage (Cornus kousa, Acer palmacum "Elegans", a prunus species and Enklanthus

In the exhibition of painting and drawings, the following artists have been awarded gold medals:
Gillian Barlow, of London (watercolours of Dorset heathland nts); Linda Francis, of Kingsion, Surrey (watercolours of brom-ellads): Martha: G Kemp. of Piedmont, California (pencil drawings of wild flowers of California's Sierra Gold Country): Cherry-Anne Lavrih, of Isleworth, Middlesex (watercolours of or-chids); Shella Mannes-Abbott, of Woodley, Bericshire (watercolours of irises); Camilla Speight, of Camberwell, London (pen and ink Gardeners Distinuers; and Amenda Jayne Willoughby, of Sheffield, South Yorkshire fillus-trations of plants of the urban waste ground).

The show, in the New Hosti-cultural Hall, Greycoat Street,

#### Church of Scotland

Ordination and ind The Rev Christine Houghton, to Dun with Hillside The Rev John M. Pickering, to Errol with Kilspindie and Rait The Rev H. Taylor Brown, to

Condorrat, Cumbernauld The Rev Rosemary Smith, to Old, The Rev Richard Baster, to Kenno-

way w Windygates and Belgonie Laduction
The Rev Douglas Murray, as
Principal at Trinity College, Glasgow University Lecolection

The Rev Figna M.M. Winn, as Co-Ordinator of Christian Education for Adults at North Leith, Edinburgh The Rev Alison Davidge, from Daimellington, Ayr, to Martyrs, Paisky

The Rev David Anderson, from Northfield, Aberdeen, to Fordyce The Rev Gordon Kirkwood, from Castlehead, Paisley, to Anderston Kelvingrove, Glasgow
The Rev James N.R. McNell, from Castlemilk West, Glasgow, to Alva

Resirements

The Rev Ian Taylor, from Abdie and Dunbog with Newburgh The Rev James Philip, from Holyrood Abbey, Edinburgh The Rev David P.L. Cumming. from Kilmodan and Colintraive The Rev William Whitelaw, from Bothkennar and Carronshore The Rev. T. Leslie Barr, from

#### **Forthcoming** marriages

The engagement is announced

between David James, son of Mrs

Helen Firman, of Harrow, Middlesex, and Helen Louise,

daughter of Mr and Mrs Bryan

The engagement is announced between Fabrice, son of the late Mr

Le Roux Smith Le Roux and of Mrs

Le Roux, and Penny, elder daugh-

The engagement is announced between Daniel, only son of Mr

Ian Maiden, of Beaulien, Hamp-

shire, and Mrs Ivan Johnston, of

Shipston-on-Stour, Warwickshire, and Susan Maria, youngest daughter of Mr Terence Stacey, of

Sonning Common, Berkshire,

The engagement is announced between Justin, younger son of Mr and Mrs Jonathan Scott, of Lasborough, Gloucestershire, and Feur, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Nicholas Taylor, of Bolton Luneabline.

ma Mile LL Advantage of the engagement is announced between Christopher, third son of Mr Jeremy Wall, of Luston, Herefordshire, and Mrs John Hardwick, of Battle, East Sussex, and Lusies, edgest daughter of Mr.

and Louisa, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Adamson, of Little

Mr G.E. Small and Miss C.M. Bades. The marriage took place on Octo-ber II, at St Marrys, Great Baddow, between Mr Gerard Smith, only son of Mr and Mrs Cifford Smith, and Miss Caroline

Baden, only daughter of the Revol and Mrs Peter Baden.

Thetford, Cambridgeshire.

**Marriages** 

Mr.R.J. Vines

and Mrs P.M. Galbert

ter of Mr and Mrs David King.

Smith, of Plymouth, Devon.

Mr C.F.M. Le Roox

and Miss P.A. King

Mr D.A.J. Maiden

Mr J.W.E. Scott

and Miss F. Taylor

Bolton, Lancashire.

mit Min S.M. Shory

Dr P.A. Candri

and Dr.T.L' Secrett The engagement is announced hetween Paul Andrew, son of Dr and Mrs Peter Cauchi, of St Julians, Malta, and Tracey Joanne, cidest daughter of Mr and Mrs. Robert Secrett, of Enion.

Mr S.M. Chick ... and Miles & Eastern

The engagement is announced between Mark second son of Mr and Mrs J.R. Chick, of Whitehurth, Buckinghamshire. Whitehurch. and Joanna, elder daughter of Mr A.G. Eason, CBE, and Mrs Eason. of Happy Valley, Hong Kong.

Mr P. Cooper and Min & M. Hattersley Smith The engagement is amounced between Philip, son of Mrs Anne Stephen, and Kara, elder daughter of Dr. and Mrs Geoffrey Hattersley Smith, of Sissinghurst, Keut.

Mr SJ. Con

and Miss R.K. Marson The engagement is announced between Simon, younger son of the late Mr and Mrs Cox, of Kinver, West Midlands, and Rosalind, only daughter of Dr and Mrs Paled Messes of Lephan Kert Raiph Marson, of Lenham, Kent.

Mr N.F. Green and Miss E.F. Neistrop The engagement is announced between Nicholas, eldest son of Mr Derek Green and the late Mis Green, formerly of Kensington, London, and Lizzie, daughter of Mr and Mrs James Neistrop, of Machine 1985.

Mr R.J. Haynes and Miss K.E. Landen The engagement is amounced between Rupert, son of Mr and Mrs Rodney Haynes, of Upper Basildon, Berkshire, and Kate, daughter of Mr and Mrs. Dalby

Thames, Oxfordshire. Mr. F. Lowis

and Miss A.M. Louis The engagement is amounced between Paul, youngest sun of Mr and Mrs Islwyn Lewis, of Barnstaphe, Devon, and Anne Morag, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Athol Lonie, of Leighton Bureard, Sedfordshire.

#### National ISIS

ional Independent Schools information Service was cele-brated on November 1 with a concert by the National ISIS Strings Academy at St Peter's, Earon Square, London SW1, and at a reception held in The Mail. Galleries. Mr R.S. Trafford, Chairman. National ISIS Committee. and Mr D.J. Woodhead, National Director, ISIS, welcomed the

Lectures

retary to the Treasury, was the speaker at the second annual Scornies Institute lecture, held yesterday at Merchant Taylors Hall Mr Graham Ross Russell, charman, presided.

present were:
Mr. Robin O'Neill (Corbishley Lecurer) and Mrs O'Neill the Macedonian Ambassador and Mrs Cyrenkovsid, the Charge d'Affales of Buigaria. Mr Hugh Adamson, Father Bruno Brinkman, St. Mr Michael Cuills, Mr and Mrs D.F. Duncan, Mr Hugh Dykes, Professor Hugh Erreman, Mr and Mrs David Hughes, Mr Milos Lutzbanov, Mr Tony Milison, Mr Colin Munro, Dr and Mrs Derek Prag, Mr Byyan Saunders, Mr Michael Smart, Mr F. Szabe and Mrs Piona Shipley.

#### The marriage took place on Mon-day, October 20, in Exeter, of Mr Richard Vines to Mrs Elizabeth

The 25th anniversary of the net-

English-Speaking Union last evening. Professor George Wedell, Chairman, and Mrs Wedell received the guests. Among those Diesent Were.

TICKETS FOR SALE

#### Birthdays today

Mr Bryan Adams, stager, 38; Mr R.W. Armand, VC, 33; Str John Balley, former HM Procurator General, and Treasury Solicitor,

69; Mr John Berger, author and art critic, 71; Mr E.R.H. Bowring. in tribe, r. in Each But Rev F.W. Cocks, former Blahop of Shrewsbury, 84; Mr. Art Gar-anicel, singer and composer, 56; Mrs Caroline Jackson, MEP, 51; Mrs Caronne Jackson, Mrs., 51; Dr Paul Knapman, Coroner for Westminster, 53; Professor Sir David Mauon, former president, General Dental Council, 69; Mr Nicholas Maw, composer, 62; Mr Jim Moir, Compolito, BBC Radio 2, 56; Mr John Morris, QC, MP. Securities Institute

Mrs Helen Liddell, Economic Securities Institute

Mrs Helen Liddell, Economic Securities Institute

Securities Institute

66; Mr Lester Piggott, former jockey, 62; Rear-Admiral Andrew Richmond, 66; Mr Anthony Rolfe Johnson, tenor, 57; Mr Sam Shephard, econ; 54; Lord Stallard, 55; Mr Sam Shephard, econ; 54; Lord Stallard, 65; Mr Sam Shephard, econ; 65; Mr Sam Shephard, econ; 65; Mr Sam Shephard, econ; 65; Mr Sam Securities Institute lecture, field yesserday at Merchant Taylors Hall Mr Graham Ross Russell, chairman, presided.

On the occasion of the 2list Corbishley Memorial Lecture the Trust held a reception at the English Stressling Union last see.

Service reunion

Sich Brignet:
Officers of the Sich Brigade held their sumual returner at the Army and Navy Club yesterday. Colonel John Smith presided.

Appointment Mr John Keivin Toulmin, QC, to be a Circuit Judge, to sit as an Official Referee on the South Eastern Circuit.

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# PERSONAL COLUMN

ONTON - On 2nd Hovember 1997, suddenly at her home in Ondby (Leicestee), Amelia Ada Orton aged 51 years, lowed wife of the late Fit. L. John Goodsers Otton. Dem morther of Vivianne and Genedicother of Civiatoshie.

HUNTER - Margaret Mary
Phyllis (nás Cursiter).
Peacafully in let sleep at
home on Thursday 30th
Octobur, Margaret, dearly
level wife of Hunny Hunter,
Mother of Frances, Summins,
Andrew, Casoline, and David,
and Gamdmothet of Secky,
Ben, Emina, Bram, Sam,
Henrietta, Imbella, Summins,
Jenny, and Alexander.
Peneral on Wednasday
November 5th, at Wardston
Crumatorium, where a
service will be held in the
Coaster Chapel at 2.15 pm,
to wide all friends are
hydred Fundly fiveurs only.
Denations if degired to
LFAW. mother of Vivianne and Gesenhauther of Caristophes, Theothy and Mark. Funeral Service at St Imme Church, Hardington, Evesham on Wednesday November 12th at 12 Boon. Internant following in the churchysel. All flowing in the churchysel. All flowing in the churchysel. All flowing in the churchysel. And further caughties to Girne & Gutteridge Puneral Discouns of Leicortus, the

POLSLASE - John, beloved husband of Ann and wonderful step-father to Lais Cary, died peccafully at his home in Sougando on October 28th, RLF.

METOKIS - Dr. Anthony John Hope Reford, husband of Monice and much leved father, ded pencefully on October 31st. Regulem Mass 2.30 pm Monday 10th Hovember St Aloysius, Woodstock Road, Oxford.

Woodstock Road, Onfool.

SOUTHENY - Released (Tacklin')
aged 93, much loved
hushand for 67 years of
Toodie' (hus) pencatally, at
Mainesbury Rospital on
Rist October, No famual.

TYER - Planbuche Rosemurys
on Sunday, 26th October,
1997 in hospital after a long
Ulhatts borns with great
courage. Fusueral Service
Friday, 7th November at
11.50 am, & Damye' Charch,
Rotharflath, Pandry Howess
only, Damedons H desired to
the Arthritis and
Hesematism Council cle
Paul Bysouth Funeral
Directure, Councemans, Tuk
(02E92) 68E000.

WHITE - Milderd Annie on Inc.
Hovember 1997 aged 95
yman, sister of the late Duris
White, peacefully at Inspens
Residential Riome. Femenal
Service at Chilitzma
Grematenial Riome. Femenal
Service at Chilitzma
Grematenial Riome. Respective
to Hole Assistant Residential
to the Wisler Loyil (Bethed)
on 31st October Femenal of
Manday 10th November at
3pm, 5t Peter's Chunch,
Hambledon, Sunny,
white Sires. Pescelly a
thome on November 1st,
1997, aged 5t, wife of the
into Deck Lieur d'Augun
Willie Femenal Survice will
be held at Guildford
Chematenium at 12 noon on
Fridey 7th November, Femily
flowers only, Donations to
Fryllis Tuckwell Hospice,
Furnham, Sunny.
Williants died vescelully on

WILLIAMS - Dr. C. Edward

Williams died pescetally on November Ist. He will be density missed by Ann. Goff, Sally, Mike, Liu, Kichard, Kim, Campbell and Kate, Petseni 1,60 pm Thunday Hovember-oth at Trury Commission. Commission. atecian, Cour IN MEMORIAM --

PRIVATE

FRANKAR - Busen, All our love desc Socie on your birthday, at ever. Muss, Rossie and Jundy and Robert.

Smily and Sobert.
THORPS - Lowis (5th
November 1913 - 16th
October 1977), hamenbeed,
other trency years with love
and admiration.
YOUNG - Panel. Set November
1972. Always in my life.
Minne.

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PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000 therefore he teaches staness the way they should go. He guides the kumble in right conduct and teaches them his way. Pealm 25 : 8,9 SURRELL - To Helen (née Minoprio) and Richard on

CASANOVA - On October 31st at The Portland Hospital, to isabelie (née Sunazan) and Olivies, a son, Alexandre, a brother for Cheries. CHARLEDWARDS - On 2nd November 1997 at Queen Charlotte's, to [eanette Edwards (nés Singam) and Cydl Alex Chun, a deughter, Hannah Frances, a haif-sher for [scot, Edk and Mabel.

COCKCROFT - On October 28th, to Cathedre (née Abd) and Empart, a son, Robert Toby Reiggs, a boother for Hebe.

PARALALIA - On Sunday 2nd November 1997 in Lebuncz, to Caroline (nác Baker) and Fazzi, a son, Eodust George Rand (Robbie), a beother for

GOBLE - On 3rd November 1997, in Paris, to Biblion (née des Garets) and Jounthan, a son, Thomas - a HAYNS - To John and Chire (née Renyon) on November 4th at St Thomas Hospital, London, a son, Micah Luka. HUTCHISON - On 2nd November 1997 at The Princess Mangaret Hospital, Windsor, to Keeley and Robert, a daughter, Alice Mae, a sister for Katle.

MANAGEM - On October 29th at Queen Charlotte's, to Sursh and Mick, a son, Henry Michael, a heather for James and Alax. daughters, Charlotte and Isobel, on 17th October, sistens for Ben and Micheles. Socswitte - On 21st Outpher unexpectedly at home, to Plona (nos Bisset) and Rosy, a daughter, Ellie Mary Louise, a sister for Matthew.

SWADDLE - To Alison (note Marsh) and Paul, a son, George Patrick, on 22nd October 1997. WATSON - On November 1st at The Portland Hospital, to Kim and Mark, a son, Thomas, a brother for Sam, Emily and Katy.

DEATHS OATS - To Marin (née GIII) and Simon, on November 1st at Colchestur, a son, Frederick John Duniel. POLLOCK - On Tuesday 25th October at the Hospital of St John and St Elizabeth, to Steven and Vanaga (não do Sellucourt), a daughter, Rossmary Elimbeth.

(née Wright) and Neill, e daughter Sarah Louise at law Hospital, Lenariushira, on 3sd Konsuban

ROBBISON - On 24th October 1997, to Issy (née Blanchard) and James a beautiful son, Samuel Enggle, Happy and safe in RÓWLAND PAYNE - On 24th September 1997, to Cinistopher and Wendy (nés Mair) a daughter Anouskin Poppy Joy.

\$EYMOUR - To Tom and Almon (nie Lothouse) a daughter Ente Blimbeth on 30th October at the Friarage, Northallerion.

seeth - On October 27th st The Postland Hospital, to Deeps and Suzindez, a son, Arjan Karan.

and the second s

November 3rd very percefully at The Cedars fundag Seme, Shaftestury, Asiased husband of Alix and very loving tathers fundly funeral. Thanksgiving Service in Leaden in Rew Year to be announced. Domitions if deathed for The Cedars Nessing Home say be sent to Encher Brothers PLD, Gillingham, Durset SPS 4GL.

Cameral I have fundaged by the Cedars of John Ender Brothers PLD, Gillingham, Durset SPS 4GL.

Cameral I have fundaged by the Cedars of John Endeliffe Roughtal, Cedard GXS 9DC.

CAMPUBLL. Junet Amne on November 2nd in her 100th yest. Formerly of Sampfard Spiney, Davon. Very much loved by her fundly and all her many felends. Funced at Sampford Spiney Farish Church on November 11th at 12 noon. Family flowers only, denerious if wished to the Church of Morris Brothers, I Drake Road, Tavistock.

DEWDORFY - Margaret died pescefully in Bristol aged 88 on November 2nd. She was the much loved wife of Waffard (German) and the mother of Marilyn and Richand, also the grandmother of Sophia, Oliver and Gay. Pauseral Service Tuenday 11th November 12 mean at Christ Church, Clifton, Bristol. Floral riflectes or dometions to Mill may be sent clot Thomas Davis Funeral Directons, Southful Lodge, Sentiarble Road, Rrietal, tel. (Ol17) 9661965.

DECEMBOR - Auro Margaret
Dickinson 190, peocetally on
4th Hovember in
Brendonara, Whechester,
after a long Elmes borne
with courage and dignity,
Sister of John. Funeral
Service at Goldars Green
Committedian on Wednesday
12th Necember at 12.15 pm.
Family flowers only,
donations to Brussien
Bursing Trest, Park Road,

Manny - Eric Roy John passed away peacefully on November 1st. Much loved husband of Karin, father of husband of Karin, father cremation. Family flowers only. Donations to the Hospini of St John & St Elizabeth, 60 Grove Rad Road, St John's Wood, London KWE PRE would be generally received. JOY - Himbeth Jame (nois Roo), belaved wife of Lix and devoted mother to James and Howard, died peacefully at home on 4th November 1997. Funeral Service at St. Many's Chunch, Marton Park on Monday 10th November at 230 pm. Patelly Howard on Monday 10th November at 230 pm. Patelly Howard on Marie Carle Cancer Care, clo-Co-operative Funeral Services, 91 London Road, Mondan, Suney, 2864 SHF.

generally received.

MALLETT - On November 3st, Geoffiery St. John F.R.C.S. diet penedulty, at lease with his family. Baleved husband of Particle, adoesd father and genedictive. He never lest his seems of humanur and been his long illness with enormous digastry and courage. Private cremation. Service of Thembegiring at St. John the Buydets, Boldre on Priday 14th November 2.30 ym. Fleme no flowes, but he wished any domations to be sent to The Lymbuscu. Hospital Endowment Fund, clo F.W. House & Sons, 2/D, Lymbusco, Hampston, Hampshire.

Hills - Anthony Lavencoo on 4th November after a long liness, hunband of Parsels and fother of jenser, Nirst and Comfin. Funeral private. No flowers planse but donations if deated to the hoyal Sour and Carter Home. Richand. STERMOND.

STORY - On 25th October
1997 suddenly in Highelitis,
Dr. Alfred John Honore,
beloved husband of Lys.;
Raquirles to Av. Eddens;
PRASTAL Directors,
Victorians and COLASES

MARKOTT - On November 2nd 1997 John Miles Marriett CPFA MINCS, of Bolton, All enquiries Malph's Funeral Service, Bolton, Inc (01204) 823465. MASON - Anna (née Byfant) of Masten Park, aged 54 years, penorfully at 51 kephants Hospico on 2nd Roventon 1997, ulés of Hell, méther ef Plona and Helen, Panetal Savrice 2.30 ym Tuesday 12th Rovember at \$1 Mary's Check, Marton Poli, Panily Howes only Dountions if desired to 51 kaplasel's Hospico, London Rand, North Chem, Survy SES 922.

KHEMLANI - Mrs Padma-Arjendas pascelully en 1st Novamber 1997, beloved mother of Priya Assonauli und gandmother of Sujata V. Assonall. May God rest her soul in pasca.

and Genemacker. Peterni Service at St. Copen Church, Winchester on Wednesday 12th Hovember at 2 pin-Paulty flowers only, but downtown, if desired, us The Ecopital of St. Crees clo Jain. Steel & Son, Chesti House, Winchester,

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# John Starks, naval architect,

died in Teignmouth, Devon, on October 17 aged 80. He was born in Devonport on April 29, 1917.

then, in 1964, Cunard placed the order for its new cruise liner Queen Elizabeth 2, John Starks was the technical director of the Clydeside shipbuilders John Brown and Co, who were to design and build the vessel. It was, therefore, Starks who headed the technical team that realised Cunard's elegant design, a rival to P&O's Canberra.

It was the high point in a distinguished career of ship design that had earlier encompassed Britain's first nuclear submarine, the Dreadnought. That in itself had been a milestone in a life that had been largely devoted to improving submarine design as it progressed from the cramped boats of the Second World War through to the nuclear age. John Frederick Starks was the

third of six brothers, brought up in the Devonport district of Plymouth. His mother was left a widow when he was still young and the family experienced some hardship. Though academically bright, Starks had to leave Devonport High School at 15 to earn his living and so relieve the strain on the family finances. He became a shipwright apprentice at Devonport Dockyard in 1932. In 1936 he gained a cadetship in naval construction, and was selected for training with the Royal Corps of Naval Constructors. He studied at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, and gained a first-class professional certificate.

He joined the corps in 1939, and throughout the Second World War worked on submarine design. He was involved in the redesign of the Swordfish class, known as the 1940 "S" Class submarine, as well as the "U" Class, both of which later had a leading role in disrupting Rommel's supply line to North Africa. He also worked on the "A" Class submarine, which had a welded pressure hull that enabled it to dive to greater

depths than boats with rivetted hulls. In 1945 Starks joined the staff of Admiral (Submarines) with the rank of constructor commander. Even in a submarine service where the accent is on youth, a 28-year-old commander

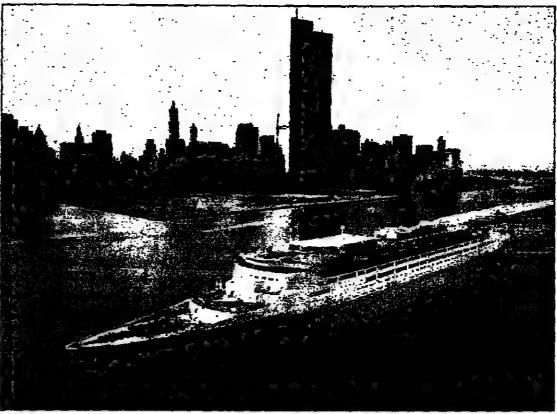


was something of a phenomenon. In a departure from design, Stark was involved in the modernising of submarine escape equipment and procedures. At this time, too, the German U-boat Graph was captured and put into service with the Royal Navy. Starks was greatly interested in the differences between British and German submarines, and in March 1948 he presented a paper to the Institute of Naval Architects on German Li-Boat design and production.

Later that year he first became associated with the shipbuilders John Brown and Co at Clydebank. He was based in Glasgow as the Admiralty's principal ship overseer, representing the Admiralty's interests among all the Clyde shipbuilding companies engaged in naval work. This embraced construction of the Tiger Class cruisers which, finally completed in the 1950s, were fitted with automatic 6in and 3in guns to make them a formidable weapons plat-form. The conception of a new and powerful class of flotilla leader gave rise to the Daring Class, which also entered service in the 1950s.

From 1951 to 1955 Starks was in Washington, where he worked with the British Joint Services Mission. The many American friends he made there stood him in good stead during his subsequent work on nuclear submarine design, and it was a particularly happy time for him, his wife Maggie and their two sons.

Back in Britain in 1955, at the Admiralty in Bath, he became chief constructor in charge of a team working on "new design" submarines, the first to go into service with



The QE2, designed and built on the Clyde - a project which gave John Starks great satisfaction

the Royal Navy in the postwar period for at that time the submarine fleet was entirely of Second World War vintage). These new submarines were the Porpoise and Oberon classes, which, for the first time, used plastics and glass fibre in their construction. With their high submerged speeds, (16 knots to the "A" Class's 8 knots) and improved diving depths, they were the final expression of conventional submarine design before the advent of nuclear propulsion opened seemingly boundless possibilities for the undersea weapon.

JOHN STARKS

Starks was also involved in the work which led to the Royal Navy's first guided missile ships, the County Class destroyers, of which the first to enter service was HMS Devonshire. (Other-service critics of this class claimed that the Navy had pulled a fast one for the purposes of the defence estimates, and that the County Class were really cruisers. Certainly, by the time Devonshire was completed in 1962 she was, at 5,200 tons, almost twice as heavy as the standard destroyer of those times, and her successors grew even larger.) Starks was next employed on the

design of Britain's first nuclear submarines. Although the reactor technology was American, the rest of the boat, including its sonar and weaponry was entirely British in design. Dreadnought, the first of a class of submarines which were tumter killers and not ballistic missile carriers, was launched in 1960. Of all the ships he designed, she was to remain Starks's favourite.

In 1960 he left the Admiralty to join John Brown as technical director. The QE2 project gave him great satisfaction. She was a 900ft vessel displacing only 58,000 tons, remarkable statistics which owed much to the fact that aluminium was used extensively in her construction. As a result, this great ship had a draught of only 3lft. But the clouds were gathering around John Brown. Already the shipbuilding industry was being challenged by air travel and by foreign competition. In 1968 John Brown joined Upper Clyde Shipbuilders, but this was to be a short lived marriage. The company went bankrupt in 1971, though a sit-in by the workforce prolonged its life, after a fashion, into 1972.

By that time Starks had been invited to join Vosper Thorneycroft, the Southampton shipbuilders, and to supervise the work they were doing on Brazilian navy frigates in Rio de Janeiro. After the financial stress of the years on the Clyde, it was a very welcome opportunity. In 1972 he and his wife moved to Rio where they

spent five happy years.
On his return to Britain in 1977, Starks retired to his native Devon, to Teignmouth, and enjoyed a contented retirement by the sea for 20 years. He is survived by his wife Maggie and by

#### PROFESSOR A. H. **ARMSTRONG**

Armstrong, FBA. classical scholar, died on October 16 aged 88. He was born on August 13, 1909.

HILARY ARMSTRONG was one of a small band of European scholars who in the middle years of this century re-established Plotinus in the position he had been given by Renaissance humanisis as one of the leading philosophers of the ancient world, equalled in importance only by Plato and

When Armstrong published his Introduction to Ancient Philosophy in 1947, this was not a view that would have been familiar to classical scholars of the British school, nor was it welcomed by them. But since then detailed knowledge of the intricacies of Plotinus's philosophy has been increasingly recognised as essential to a rounded study of the thought of the ancient world, and as an indispensable tool for understanding the thought of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance,

Armstrong's most important contribution to this quiet revolution was his translation into English of the new text of Plotinus's Enneads. When the seventh and final volume of his translation was published in 1988, Armstrong's interest in neo-Platonism already stretched back more than half a century, to the years he had spent in Cambridge and Swansea before the war, breaking the ground for his pioneering work. The Architecture of the Intelligible Universe in Plotinus, which Cambridge University Press published in 1940.

Arthur Hilary Armstrong was educated at Lancing and at Jesus College, Cambridge. On graduation, he stayed for a while at Cambridge, with a post at the Classics Faculty library, before moving to Swansea in 1936 as an assistant lecturer in Classics, From 1939 he was Professor of Classics at Valletta, Maita, until the evacuation of British civilians in 1943, when he returned to England, going first to Beaumont College and then returning to the University of Wales at

Davidit. In 1950 he was appointed to the Gladstone Chair of Greek in Liverpool. Here the significance of his work on Plotinus was increasingly recognised. In 1967 he edited the Cambridge History of Later Greek and Early Medieval Philosophy. By 1970, English mistrust of neo-Platonism had waned sufficiently for Armstrong's work on Plotinus to be rewarded by his election as a fellow of

the British Academy. He had never relished the burdens of academic administration, so in 1972 he took early retirement from his Chair at

invitation to move to the University of Dalhousie, at Halifax in Nova Scotia. There a new chair was specially created for him, allowing him to pursue his teaching and research unfenered by external commitments. In 1983, however, he returned to his

home in Shropshire. Naturally reticent, Armstrong greatly valued the stimulus and affection of colleagues and friends. A keen gardener and walker, he did much of his thinking in the open air. He was a voracious reader into advanced old age and was blessed with an

astonishing gift of recall. As well as philosophy, reli gion played a large part in his inner world. The son of a High Church Tory vicar (first of West Dean, then of Funtingdon, both in Sussex) he was educated as a devout Anglican. As a young man at Cambridge he was received into the Roman Catholic Church and married Deborah Wilson of a Midlands Ouaker family.

Armstrong, whose theologi-cal sympathies were always liberal, welcomed the aggiornamento under Pope John XXIII. Over many years he contributed articles and reviews to Catholic journals such as The Heythrop Journal, Downside Review, The Tablet and Eastern Churches Quarterly, concerning himself mainly with the connections between philosophy and theology in the Patristic Age. He was a pioneer founder, with others, of the quadrennial Oxford Patristic Conference. He also assisted the Catholic hierarchy, following the second Vatican Council, in the translation of liturgical texts into English. He was not unhappy to don the mantle of Catholic philosopher.

Well before the second Vatican council he had been much concerned at the repression of theologians and scholars under Pope Pius XII, and various factors in later life contributed to make him ever more critical of Christian dogmatism. He eventually returned without fuss to the Church of England, occupying a prominent for-ward pew at the weekly Sunday morning worship in St Laurence's, Ludlow.

There, in Ludlow church vard, his ashes have been added to those of his wife. close by the ashes of another distinguished classical scholar, A. E. Housman. No two men could have been more dissimilar in their lives or in their beliefs, but both recognised the importance. for humane learning, of a scrupulous study of the texts of antiquity. Both did so in a way that was quintessentially English yet won recognition in the wider world of European clas-

Hilary Armstrong is survived by two sons and a daughter; two daughters predeceased him.

sical scholarship.





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Williams teaching at the School of American Ballet

dancer and teacher, died on October 21 aged 72. He was born at Chappel. Essex, on March 5, 1925.

WHEN the Royal Danish Ballet gave its first London season at Covent Garden in 1953, an autograph hunter trying to identify the unfamiliar dancers was asking them to pronounce their names as they emerged from the stage door. To his surprise, the answer from one of the leading men was "Williams".

English by birth, Stanley Williams had grown up in Denmark, begun dancing there and became one of the most stylish artists of the Royal Theatre. But an even more distinguished career was to follow when he moved to New York and became recognised as probably the best ballet teacher anywhere during the past three decades.

Williams was not interested. as a performer or teacher, in brilliant effects. What he was after was perfection, and it was his single-minded pursuit of this that drew such virtuosos as Nurevev and Barvshnikov to his classes at the School of American Ballet, happy to stand at the barre next to students so as to benefit from his concentration on exectness and finish, control and shape, the relationship of one step to another within the musical phrase.

Williams's obsession with excellence, and a certain personal reticence, may have limited his own performing career. He was a joy to watch in the ballets of the 19thcentury Danish master August Bournonville, for the smooth eloquence he gave to the solos in Napoli and other works. But only once or twice was he given a role that provoked more theatrical fire

emed company are requested to before 33 December 1997, and their names, addresses a

it was no great sadness to him when an injury restricted him to the less demanding roles. since by then he had found that he enjoyed teaching others more than performing. Stanley Williams's father was an English horse dealer and former jockey, but his

from him: as the Gaoler in

Massine's Symphonie Fantas-

tique and as Mercutio in

Ashton's Romeo and Juliet. So

mother was Danish and they moved from Newmarket to Copenhagen when he was about seven. He entered the Royal Theatre's ballet school at nine, on the suggestion of a family friend. He duly graduated into the company and at 24 was promoted to solo dancer - the highest rank. corresponding to principal dancer elsewhere. But the then director, Har-

old Lander, must have observed his thoughtful attitude to dancing, and only a year later, in 1950, asked him to begin giving some classes too. Williams never failed to credit his own chief teacher. Karl Marrild, but was out of sympathy with his "sergeant-major" manner, and acquired more understanding of teaching from long discussions with the Russian Vera Volkova. who became artistic adviser to

the Royal Danish Ballet. When George Balanchine was in Copenhagen a few years later, he watched Williams's classes with interest and eventually invited him to New York. He went first as a guest teacher, but in 1964 joined the faculty of the New York City Ballet and its attached school of American Ballet. Williams soon made himself the most vital member of the faculty, of which he rose to become chairman.

He taught both boys and girls at all levels, but his chief memorial is the succession of outstanding male dancers who graduated into the City Ballet, and the American Ballet Theatre, under his guidance. He also regularly staged some of Bournonville's showpiece dances for the school's annual public programmes, and compiled a collection of these into a big Bournonville Divertissement, which entered the City Ballet's repertoire to much acclaim. Sadly, Williams's native land saw little of him, al-

though one of the earliest proofs of his ability had come during his one brief spell with a British company: the shortlived Ballet Comique founded by the designer George Kirsta in 1954. Offering a repertoire of new ballets by young choreographers, the company failed to find audiences on its opening tour, and was dissolved after a few months. Not, however, before it had shown excellent dancing by its corps de ballet as well as the soloists, and among some of its young dancers a remarkable im provement on their previous work. The credit for this was clearly due to Williams, who had taken leave of absence from Copenhagen to act as

Peter Darrell and others. Williams received honours in both of his adopted countries. More important to him was the high regard and affection in which he was held by dancers. He was not married, and he did not retire; his work was his life to the end. His youthful, ebullient gregariousness gradually changed to a more withdrawn manner. but he never lost his love for his profession and his pride in it nor the essential kindness behind even his strictest demands.

hallet master and teacher.

besides dancing in ballets by



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**ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

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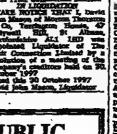
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PUBLIC NOTICES

#### THE BEATLES ON PARADE

Prince of Wales Theatre: Royal Variety Performance

Tell artists - or their audiences for that matter — that they are assisting at a great occasion and they at once create an atmosphere which leaves criticism stunned and helpless. Such an occasion is the Royal Variety Performance in aid of the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund: this year's performance took place last night in the presence of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

Without this special atmosphere the show might well have worried us, for since the rise of television, it has almost inevitably become a mixture that refuses to congulate. What, we find ourselves asking, has the tragic, mutually destructive relationship of Albert Steptoe and his son Harold to do with the world of simple innocence which Mr. Eric Sykes and Hattie Jacques enter for their brother-and-sister act?

## ON THIS DAY

November 5, 1963

Home grown talent has always had a leading role in this hardy annual. 1963 was no exception to the rule. The reviewer appears, rather reluctantly, to have enjoyed the show

What has either of these small-scale performances to do with a cheerful bit of ling in which Mr. Charlie Drake exploits his uniness and Miss Tessa Davies's taliness. or with genial, large-scale show-stopping extracts from Pichwick and Half a Supence except that we would never on these occasions, willingly do without Mr. Drake, Mr. Harry Secombe and Mr. Tommy Steele. It is possible to ask what connection any of these pleasures has with the youthfully private world in which The Beatles exercise the combination of musical naivety with electronic sophistication which suits their engaging, irreverent cheerfulness and the loudest common chords since the end of Ein

This is not to say that we object to arty of the ingredients of this vigorous, enjoyable hotchpotch. Miss Jacques and Mr. Sykes are personalities welcome wherever they are encountered, and any programme profits from the totally imagined, creative acting which Mr. Harry H. Corbett and Mr. Wilfrid Brambell bring to the Steptoes.

In the parade of stars there was, perhaps. less that was borrowed from television than might have been expected. Mr. Dickie Henderson filled occasional gaps with some nolished work, Mr. Francis Brunn juggled incredibly and Miss Susan Maughan sang with vigorous enthusiasm. The Clark Brothers' gaily gymnastic dancing and the "Rose Adagio" for The Sleeping Beauty, danced by Miss Nadia Nerina and members of the Royal Ballet gave pleasure.

Messrs. Michael Flanders and Donald Swan provided relaxed, sonhisticated wit-Miss Marlene Dietrich, rall, slim, immobile, provided the evening's magical contact with a legendary world in which stars never set.

The initial thawing out process was undertaken by Mr. Max Bygraves with

#### NEWS

#### Louise ruling for the Internet

■ Louise Woodward could learn today whether she is to escape the life sentence imposed on her for murdering the eightmonth-old baby Matthew Eappen.

Judge Hiller B. Zobel, who heard emergency motions calling for her release, said that he could publish his decision on the Internet today. He also gave a hint that the verdict could be reduced to one of assault and battery, which would mean that she could be freed from Framingham prison.....

#### Rape victim wins record damages

A mother of three has been awarded record damages of nearly £74,000 by a county court judge after she sued her former boss, whom she accused of raping her twice. With costs, this will take the total bill for the company director she claimed attacked her to over £132,000 .....

#### Prince's tribute

For the first time since the death of Diana. Princess of Wales, the Prince of Wales paid public tribute to his former wife's charity .. Page 1

#### Royal Opera crisis

The Royal Opera company could be forced to declare itself bankrupt within a week, Lord Chadlington, its chairman, told MPs. He had until November 12 to present a rescue package to the Arts Council..... ..... Page 1, 5 Europe campaign

A national campaign to counter the tide of Euroscepticism was launched by the Government and the Liberal Democrats......Page 2

#### WPC in team

A WPC broke down in tears in court as she described how she found herself alone among a crowd of youngsters who attacked her screaming: "kill her. kill her" ....

#### School victory

Children whose parents waged a year-long legal battle to secure places at a local comprehensive celebrated victory ... ..... Page 9

#### 'Food deserts'

Pockets of inner-city and rural Britain have become "food deserts" threatening the health of the poor and elderly, the Government said. Ministers are now considering ways of improving ... Page 10

#### Workers' rule

The European Commission will prepare the way today for a new law under the social chapter that would require firms to consult employees on policy ...... Page 11

#### Children's TV

Children are being starved of quality television because of too many of cartoons, said broadcasting watchdogs...

#### Lorry violence

Tony Blair urged Lionel Jospin. the French Prime Minister. to take swift action to help British lorry drivers stranded by the strike in France, as violence erupted near Boulogne ... Page 15 Saddam meeting

#### Iraq's confrontation with the Uni-

ted Nations enters a critical phase when a UN delegation arrives in Baghdad hoping to persuade President Saddam Hussein to reverse his ban on Americans in inspection teams......Page 16

#### Torture allegation

A Zambian opposition politician has been tortured while under detention for alleged involvement in last week's failed military uprising, his lawyer said .... Page 17 Animal rights

The Indian Government is showing signs of bowing to the concerns of animal rights activists, in a country where large parts of the economy depend on overworked beasts of burden... .....Page 18

#### Boycott gives himself out

■ The impossible now looks inevitable. Geoffrey Boycott, Yorkshire's doughtiest opening bat is selling up in his home CONTLLA STUD TUDATLE cricketing shock, Richie Benaud, the former Australian captain, has agreed to be the patron of France Cricket, the new governing body across the Channel ..



The Prince of Wales greets volunteers from a development project at the Crossroads shantytown outside Cape Town. Page 1

BUSINESS

Botner case: After six years of investigation, involving up to 135 inspectors incurring millions of pounds of costs, the Inland Revenue dropped its prosecution of Octav Botnar, the former chairman of Nissan UK ..... ....Page 27

Brokers bids: Willis Corroon and Sedgwick, the last two heavyweight insurance brokers in the UK, could be in American hands by the end of ...Page 27

Cautious consumers: Optimism

appears to have peaked after hitting levels not seen since 1988, a \_\_Page 27 survey shows ... Markets: The FTSE 100 fell 9 to 4,897.4. Sterling was unchanged at 102.9 with the pound rising .84 cents to \$1.6854 but failing 1.11 pfen-

nigs to DM2.9002 ......

.... Page 30

Footbell: Manchester United arrived in Holland for their Champions' League tie confident that they can beat Feyenoord by more than one goal ...

Athletics: Bruce Longden, who coached Sally Gunnell, and Carl Johnson, who worked with Jonathan Edwards, were among the leading British coaches made redundant because of the sport's financial crisis.....

Rugby union: Lloyds TSB is expected to announce a deal to sponsor the five nations worth £15 million over the next three years .. Page 49 Squash: Seven Britons reached the second round of the World Open championship in Malaysia including Simon Parke, the England

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

Geoff Brown reviews

Travolta, left, and

Gina Gershon

BOOKS

Face/Off, starring John

Peter Ackroyd marvels a

the time-defying spirit

FILMS

#### House strife: As the biggest arts row for years unfolds at Covent

Garden, the dance and opera critics of The Times assess the implications, and Richard Morrison outlines political risks ... Journey man: Vaughan Williams's

opera The Pilgrim's Progress receives a superb semi-staged performance by the Royal OperaPage 40 Direct action: "An open mind and a steely grip" - the challenging di-rector Robert Wilson talks about

his contribution to the French Theatre Season, Marguerite Duras's La Maiadie de la Mort.....Page 41 Playing away: At the end of their European tour, Raymond Leppard and his Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra give a powerful Festival

Hall performance.......Page 41

sey's view of women was at odds with his philosophy of sexual liberation . . . final extract from the James H. Jones biography of the social scientist..... Fast trook: League tables in education are now considered so important that even toddlers are being tested to put them on the fast track to high grades..... ...Page 21

Sexual addity: How Alfred Kin-

Nigelia Lawson: Englishness and imnocence: Clare Short, the Government's great treasure; an animated argument... ......Page 21

#### Top epots: What are the most desirable addresses in London? A survey of upmarket estate agents has produced a surprising list Page 43

According to Helmut Kohl, the Germany Army as a whole should not be defamed just because of a minority of ultra-Right soldiers. But the alarm has its origins in the history of Germany and Europe. Hitler salutes and ant-Semitic slogans by Germans in uniform are disturbing, as is the news that neo-Nazis are using e-mail and the Internet to spread their message of: hate. Kohl has to confront and isolate this evil in order to nip it in the bud. What is at stake is not only the image of the German armed forces but the image of the coun-

Preview: A pub landlady is beaten senseless and nobody helps. Bystanders. (BBC2, 9pm). Review: Matthew Bond considers women behind the wheel and in the

The good emusceptics Crude, xenophobic, old-fashioned slogans based on the presence of the Queen's head on the banknote obscure the far more cogent and intellectual arguments of modern Euroscepticism .....

#### Europe's highwaymen Tomorrow, when President Chirac and M Jospin arrive in London for an Anglo-French summit, Tony Blair must demand guarded convoys as an absolute minimum

short-term measure...... Page 23 Circling the square If Trafalgar Square's problems can be imaginatively solved, it will serve as a model for other

. Page 23

#### SIMON JENKINS

Grants are being out. Boards are in turmoil. Budgets are flying everywhere And already the Treasury Scarpias are avenged. It was a real bullet, Tosca, The Coliseum is dead ...

#### **GEORGE SOROS**

It is for the people of Europe to decide exactly what kind of Europe they want. The EU as it is fails to meet their needs and aspirations. But what is imperfect can be improved. This is what open society is all about. ALAN COREN

#### Up until last Monday morning, I

had little in common with St Paul\_ ... Page 22 PETER RIDDELL

#### The Government now faces the

first real test of its often repeated commitment to strengthen the role of Parliament in scrutinising decisions...

#### John Starks, naval architect; Pro-

feeeor A.H. Armstrong, classical scholar: Stanley Williams, ballet dancer and teacher ....

EMU; abortion debate; press freedom; whaling dispute; prayers in . ; } pubs; bicycle speeds; language tsar. . Page 23

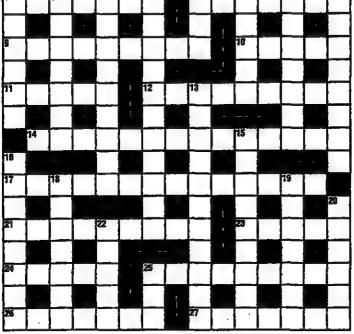
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#### THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,629



- ACROSS 1 Island race - runs it in error (7).
- 5 Classic route modern French artist follows (2.5). 9 Cockney's pet mother found in
- port (9). 10 Italian city needing another name when burnt (5).
- 1) In which a Frenchman sleeps in the dark (5). 12 Play written by Shaw as a vehicle
- for Jonathan and others (9). 14 Line of children hurries along. showing insincere grief (9.5). 17 A very raw point on part of one's
- 21 Controller of vital beat who sets speed limits? (9). 23 By Mondrian, a sacred work of

leg (8.6).

- 24 Patterned cloth put on piano (5). 25 Steak done badly in French place
  - Solution to Puzzle No 20,628

- 26 One English poet's bashful about Parisienne... (7). ... while another's in her bed
- endlessly (7).

#### i Cheerfully enclure speculator hav-

- ing success (4,2). 2 Continentals are not so narrowminded (7).
- 3 All the same, I make an impression on one state (9). 4 With head seen, kid may be discovered in this (4-3-4).
- Amount Marathon leader's up? 6 Man, for example, holding up line of (ine thread (5),
- 7 English king a European upset in island (7). 8 Trial for motorist - Toad crashing into others (4,4).
- 13 Survive bad piece of driving run into however (4.7). 15 Money the first bidder offered for kitchen equipment (3-6).
- 16 Source of divine music Peter transmits (3,5). 18 Alternative for the acre (7). 19 Outstanding bowling? Exactly (7).
- 20 Bishop blessing dog (6). 22 Gong bringing many into dinner, perhaps (5). 25 Essay of 15 lines (5).
  - Times Two Crossword, page 52

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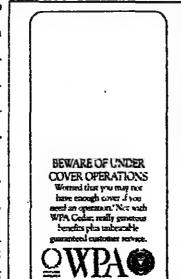
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#### of London, Joanna Pitman on the geisha PORTAGE

☐ General: Scotland will start overcest with rain, becoming fighter and more showery. Northern Instand will be breazy and mostly cloudy with rain, England and Wales will have a mild but blustery day with showers. Eastern England will have longer dry periods.

Torright it will remein blustery everywhere. These will be further rain across western Scotland and Northern Ireland. Wales and western parts of England will near the coast. A blustery southwest wind. Max 16C (61F).

If Einstend, Central N, NE Einstend: bright spells and isolated showers. A tree's southwest wind. Max 15C (59F). D Lake District, lists of Man, N Ireland: mostly cloudy with rain. A blustary north-west wind. Max 14C (57F). west wind. Mix: 14C (57F).

SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkowy, Shetland: overcall, ran. Fresh north wind. Mix: 13C (55F).

Bordera, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Centrel Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland: cloudy with rain, becoming chier. A fresh southeast wind have 13C (56E).

Wales and western parts of England will have showers, heavy in southwest England, but eastern England will be mostly dry. London, E Anglia, E Midlands, W Midlands, S Wales, N Wales, NW England: a few bright spells, but mostly cloudy with showers A blustery southwest wind. Max 16C (61P).

wind. Max 100 (017).

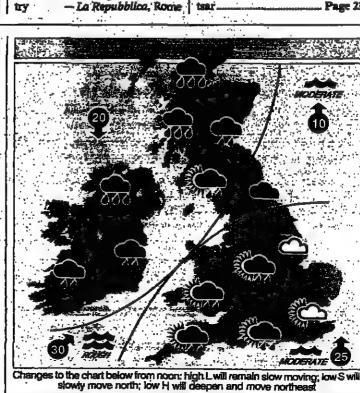
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☐ Republic of Ireland: cloudy with rain, becoming clearer later, Winds moderate, westerly Max 13C (SSF).

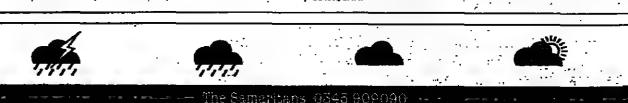
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INSIDE SECTION



#### BUSINESS

Shoppers poised to tame their spending in 1998 PAGE 31



#### HOMES

One of London's best-known estate agents looks abroad **PAGE 43** 



#### SPORT

Who goes next now the sacking season is here? **PAGES 47-52** 

TELEVISION AND RADIO

> **PAGES** 50, 51

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

**WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 5 1997** 

# Barclays sets time limit to agree BZW deal

By Richard Miles, banking correspondent

BARCLAYS has given Credit Suisse First Boston one week to strike a deal over the acquisition of large chunks of BZW, the investment bankng arm it put up for sale at beginning of October.

Martin Taylor, chief executive of Barclays, said last night that the bank had entered exclusive discussions with CSFB over its proposal to buy the UK and continental European equities arm, as well as the mergers and acquisitions and equities capital markets busi-

Excluded from the proposal are BZW's businesses in Australasia and Asia Pacific, as well as the UK equities derivatives arm. Barclays will seek buyers for these businesses separately, though interest has

rate

worries

surface

CONSUMER optimism appears to have peaked after hitting levels not seen

since 1988, a survey pub-lished today shows

(Alasdair Murray writes).

Strategies Survey of consumer sentiment found that worries about rising interest rates and inflation

are undermining optimism

The quarterly Business

some early bidders for BZW. out the revenues for BZW's £700 million, but the business

ity agreement lasts for a week and that the BZW business contained in CSFB's proposed deal accounted for a little over half of the division's revenues and just under half of its capital. He declined to put a price tag on the deal.

What we tried to do with the sale process was to seek a bidder for the whole business. but listen to whatever offers nere were. CSFB have decid ed they aren't prepared to proceed with Australasia and Asia at the moment. We have Interest left out the derivatives for a

> staff, mostly in the front office, will transfer to CSFB if the deal goes ahead. The fate of the back office is less clear. although Mr Taylor suggested that CSFB might outsource the support operation to Barciays pending further

bank, which is strong in US equities, will use BZW as the platform for further expansion into European equities. How-

about the economy. Bridget Rosewell, chairman of Business Strategies and a former member of the Treasury Panel of Indpendent Advisers, said the survey showed that the Bank of England should resist making further rate rises. "The message is that interest rates should be left

THE French Government has proposed that Jean-Claude Trichet, Governor of the Banque de France, should head the European Central Bank. The move is expected to bring a political row with Germany which is backing Wim Duisenberg. former head of the Dutch Pizza executive central bank and current chief of the European Monetary Institute, the embryo ECB. The ECB chief and buys 845 pubs

unchanged. There is no sign of an explosion in consumer spending, house prices are stabilising and manufacturing remains weak," she said.

six-member directorate will be appointed on May 2. Commentary, page 29

The Bank's monetary policy committee begins its monthly meeting today. Economists believe that recent market turbulence will persuade the commitree to leave rates unchanged, though a rise this

year is still on the cards. Monetary data out yes terday showed consumer credit growth fell from £959 million in August to £733 million in September. But mortgage lending picked up, with housing transactions at a five-year high.

Analysts were hesitant about putting a value on the propos-al — Barclays has not stripped separate businesses. Earlier estimates for BZW as a whole ranged from £600 million to es wanted by CSFB could be worth about £300 million.

Mr Taylor said the exclusiv

simple reason: there would be a 100 per cent overlap," said Mr Taylor.

About 1.000 of BZW's 7.500

CSFB refused to comment last night, except to confirm that it had begun exclusive talks with Barclays. If an agreement can be reached, the Swiss-owned investment

BZW name will be kept. Jonathan Davie, deputy chairman of BZW, expressed optimism about the prospects for the deal, even though some of his fellow executives had pinned their hopes on Donaldson, Luikin & Jenrette, the fast-growing US investment bank. DLJ dropped out of the running, along with Bankers Trust, at the weekend.

Mr Davie said: "It is a very good strategic fit. We hope we can put it together in a shape which will add value to our customers." He said he had begun informing the corporate and institutional clients of both banks. Staff will be told of the proposed deal this morning.

HUGH OSMOND is expected

to step down as an executive di-

rector of PizzaExpress to con-

centrate on running Grovebase

Properties, his new company.

which yesterday announced the

purchase of 845 tenanted pubs

The pubs are part of the 1,720-

strong Phoenix Inns portfolio

acquired from Immrepreneur in

January 1995 for £249 million.

Although yesterday's sale price

was not disclosed, sources sug-

gested a figure of between £150

Mr Osmond, who with Luke

Johnson turned PizzaExpress

into one of the stock market's

star performers, said he was investing a few million quid.

of his own money in the new venture, and would be devoting

million and £200 million.

from Nomura International.



Sir Richard Greenbury says M&S will not take on the food stores head-on, but will maintain its balance of clothing, food and household products

# M&S expansion to create 5,000 jobs

MARKS & SPENCER is to create part of its \$21 billion expansion programme to consolidate its position

as Britain's largest retailer. The company said yesterday that it intends to increase retail space by 33 per cent as it rolls out three of its most successful formats: town centre department stores, edge-of-town super-

stores and smaller food stores. The drive will leave the retailer with 18 million sq ft of shopping space, a UK workforce of 60,000 and annual profits approaching £1.4 billion by the turn of the century. Sir Richard balance of clothing, food and house-hold products without targeting any one area for particular expansion. He dismissed suggestions that it is planning an offensive against the food

store chains as "nonsense". He said: "We'd want our head examined to take on the supermarkets. We're very clear what our food focus is and it's not an attempt to take on the food companies head-on. We know

His comments came as the company returned pre-tax profits of £452 million (£430 million) for the six months to September 27. Its overseas stores, 17.2 per cent, after a £7.2 million reverse from the strength of sterling. Although the results came in below City expectations, prompting analysts

to trim year-end forecasts down £30 million to £1.17 billion, the shares eased only 10p to 500p.

One analyst said: They are obvi-

ously softening the market up for a difficult 18 months, and for a difficult period of growing. The cost of expan-sion, even without sterling, is still this leaves a lot of questions for a company whose shares are on a ratio

e for institutions look ing for solid UK growth stocks, making them unlikely to lose their rating. The company will spend £800

million on capital expenditure this

year, and plans to spend about £650 million the two years afterwards.

Sir Richard said that the company is now looking at expanding into Japan, now that property prices are a third of the price they were last time it considered opening there.

Earnings rose to 11.1p (10.5p) a share. An interim dividend of 3.6p (3.3p) is due to be paid on January 16.

Commentary, page 30

#### **BUSINESS TODAY**

London close ..... \$315.55 (\$314.25

#### Thames lower

Shares in Thames Water fell 37p to 873p yesterday after the company said it would step up investment to tackle leakage, interim profits rose ? per cent to £202 million.

#### Eastern promise

BP will continue to invest heavily in the Far East in spite of recent market turmoil in the region, the oil company said yesterday. Up to \$400 million will be spent in South East Asia this year. Page 29, Tempus, page 30

## Revenue drops charges against ex-Nissan chief

By JASON NISSÉ

AFTER six years of investigation, involving up to 135 in-spectors incurring millions of pounds of costs, the Inland Revenue yesterday dropped its prosecution of Octav Botnar, the former chairman of Nissan UK, for an alleged £219 million tax fraud.

The Revenue's lawyers told Worthing magistates that they had been advised by medical experts that Mr Botnar, 84, was too ill to stand trial and could die before a trial could

By DOMINIC WALSH

The move comes ahead of a Court of Appeal ruling, expected this week, as to whether Mr Botnar has to pay Eb8 million

much of his time to it. The

long-term aim is a flotation.

He said: "It wouldn't be fair to

pretend I can be fully execut-

ive of both." Mr Osmond, who

recently sold PizzaExpress

shares worth more than El-

million, is expected to become

Grovebase's parent company, is controlled by a small num-

ber of private investors, in-

cluding Luke Johnson. Fund-ing for the acquisition was arr-

anged by Morgan Stanley. Nomura will be left with 275

pubs from the original Phoe-

nix package, having already

sold 600 pubs piecemeal. Last

month it paid El.2 billion for a further 4,300 pubs from the original innitepteneur estate.

Wellington Investment,

a non-executive director.

claiming as unpaid tax on his charitable trusts. Last year Nissan UK paid the Revenue £59 million to settle tax claims totalling over £200 million.

Two former directors of Nissan UK, Michael Hunt and Frank Shannon, were jailed four years ago after being found guilty of tax

Yesterday Mr Botnar, who has been living in Switzerland since the Revenue launched its investigation in 1991, rejected the Revenue's explanation for dropping the case, saying charges should never have been brought against him.

The Revenue has known for four and a half years of the

perilous state of my health. following surgery for the removal of my entire stomach in 1993," said Mr Botnar. "We had asked for the warrants to be cancelled on the grounds that the Revenue applied for them and maintained them for ulterior motives, and had no intention whatsover of bring-

The Revenue investigation into Nissan UK, which had been the sole importer of Nissan cars for much of the 1970s and 1990s, was launched in June 1991 with a massive raid on the company's Worthing headquarters and the homes of senior executives involving 135 Revenue officers.

# Aon signals bid in the pipeline

By Marianne Curphey, insurance correspondent

AON, the rapidly expanding international insurance broker, yesterday signalled a likely bid for either Willis Corroon or Sedgwick, the last two heavyweight insurance brokers in the UK.

Industry sources are also

expecting a move by Marsh & McLeman, the huge US bro-ker. Both groups have made no secret of their wish for a big acquisition in the UK. Willis Corroon, which unveiled lacklustre third-quarter trading figures yesterday, is expected to be the first victim. Sources suggested that Marsh & McLennan was likely to launch a bid, although analysts cited Aon as a more aggressive suitor. A spokes-man for Aon said yesterday

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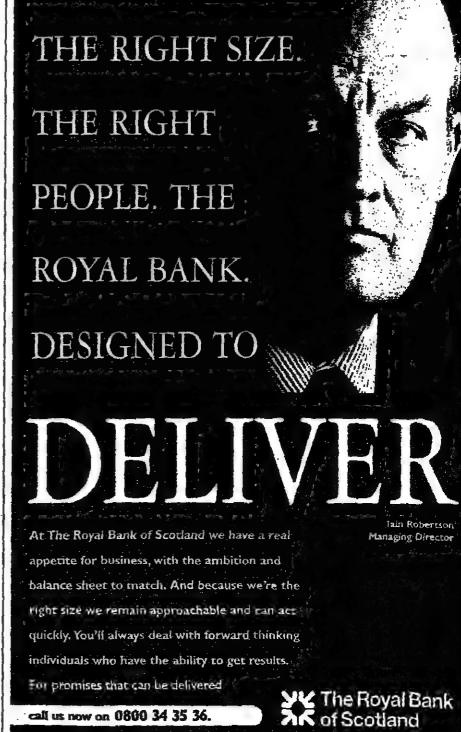
# that the company was was

looking for "further acquisi-tions". Willis is currently capitalised at £524 million. Although Willis insisted

yesterday that it intended to remain independent, its board is under increasing pressure from institutional investors to deliver better returns. Over the past 12 mouths the company's share price has under-performed the FTSE All-share index by 16 per cent.
Willis blamed intense com-

petition and the strong pound for a fall in nine-month pre-tax profit by 20 per cent to £68 million (£85.5 million).

Aon unveiled third-quarter results yesterday which showed a 39 per cent rise in profits to \$178 million (£106 million).



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By Christine Buckley, Industrial correspondent

THAMES WATER yesterday in which it gauges leakage. It pledged more action on leakage but started to square up early for a potential clash with the regulator over the next pricing review.

Thames, which is forced to

report regularly to Ofwat over leakages, said it would meet new targets for 1998-99, though it said that leakage levels de-manded dipped slightly below what it thought was economic. The company is being asked to cut back leakage to 781 million litres a day from its present tar-get of 1.08 billion. Bill Alexander, chief executive, said an economic level would be about

800 million litres a day. Ofwat has changed the way

#### Westbury confident of demand

WESTBURY, the housebuilder, said demand for new homes remained strong despite successive increases in interest rates. Yesterday the company re-ported a rise in first-half pre-tax profits to £13.5 million from E9.7 million, with a 10 per cent increase in the average selling price to

E83,600 during the period. Geoffrey Maddrell, chairman, said: "Demand for new homes remains strong, with affordability at an historically high level despite interest rate rises."

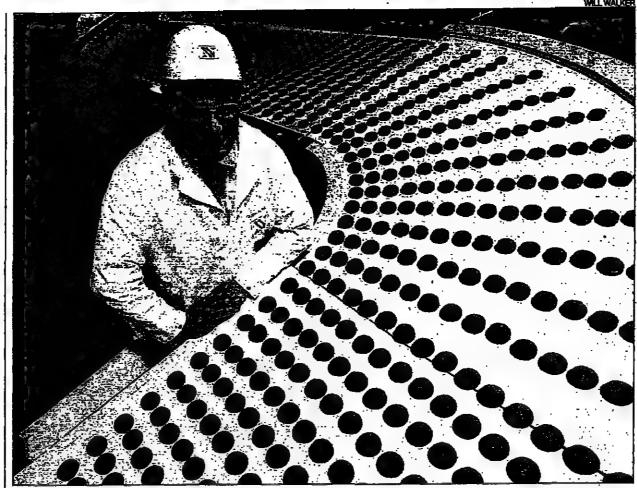
Earnings rose to 10.3p (7.4p) a share; the dividend or the six months to August 31, 10 per cent up to 2.365p, is due on January 5. does not measure leakage rates, making improvements and comparisons between companies less easy to gauge When it last compiled such figures, for 1995-96. Thames had the worst record at 38 per cent. The company declined to say what its rate was now but said there had been a 10 per cent improvement in the six months to September 30. Thames fired a warning at

Ian Byatt, the regulator, over his plans for a one-off price cut in the review set for 2000. While the company said it did not object to a one-off price cut which would be set with a running inflation-linked control - it said it would not accept a cut at the level currently being discussed. Mr Byatt has not set a figure yet for the one-off cut, but it is thought that he could go for a cut of about 10 per cent.

Shares in Thames fell 37p to 873p yesterday as the company announced interim pretax profits of £202 million - a 7 per cent rise on a year earlier. One analyst blamed profit-taking after a strong run, but there are also fears in the City over the amount Thames will have to spend on getting to grips with leakage. There had also been some expectation that the rise in the interim dividend might have been larger than the 11.6 per cent that Thames delivered. Thames will pay 12.5p a share

The company could be poised to inject about £20 million back into the business as its spending on the restructuring programme outlined in 1995-96 runs short of the £95 million that it earmarked for the exercise. It will decide by the end of the year.

on February 3.



executive of Northumbrian Fine Foods, the manufacturer of biscuits and cakes, served up a 24 per cent rise in pre-tax

September 30. Earnings were 0.83p a substantial increase in Christmas orders. share (0.67p) and the interim dividend is doubled to 0.1p a share. The company growth in the full year is expected.

said the second half had started with a substantial increase in Christmas orders.

# Beckett wins investment role

By PHILLIP BASSETT INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

TONY BLAIR has backed Margaret Beckett, President of Board of Trade, in a Whitehall row over which government department carries out a key role in channel-ling inward investment in Britain from foreign-owned

BY RAYMOND SNODDY

MEDIA EDITOR

DIGITAL terrestrial tele-

vision (DTT) in the UK moved

a step closer yesterday as

manufacturers were invited to

tender for contracts to supply

set-top box decoders and at the

SICILLY ISLAND IN A SEA OF LIGHT.

same time industry-wide

companies. The Prime Minister's decision marks a significant victory for Mrs Beckett in a protracted inter-departmental Whitehall turf war.

Supporters of John Prescott, Deputy Prime Minister, were keen on his Department of Transport, Environment and the Regions taking on the responsibility for guiding key

Set-top decoder bids invited

specifications were agreed for

the technology.

The developments should

help to ensure that at least 30 DTT channels can be

launched by the end of next

year - channels that can be

received with a conventional television aerial and without the need for satellite dishes or inward investor companies from the US, Japan, Korea, Germany and elsewhere towards setting up in particular egions of Britain.

Mr Prescott will publish a

cable connections. British Dig-

ital Broadcasting, the main commercial DTT operator,

yesterday called on manufac-

turers to tender for a "substan-

tial" initial order for the

decoders needed to receive the

pictures. The initial order is

likely to be worth about £250

million in total.

White Paper on regional development next month proposing the establishment of new Regional Development Agencles and his supporters want-

Beckett's Department of Trade and Industry — and that the role of the IDU on inward investment should be enhanced. Under present arrangements, foreign companies work initially through the IDU, which puts them in touch with local agencies, including development

ed the new regional bodies to

take over responsibility for

directing inward investment.

But the Frime Minister has

decided that responsibility should remain with the Indus-trial Development Unit in Mrs

But under Mrs Beckett's new proposals representatives from all regions will now have a role inside the IDU, which will in effect play a key part in

deciding to which area of the UK an investment should go. The move was announced yesterday to the Trade and Industry Select Committee. NatWest to

#### Hygiene test unveiled as Celsis cuts losses

By PAUL DURMAN

CELSIS INTERNATIONAL the contamination testing company that is close to profit, has developed a simple, colour-based test for checking hygiene standards in restaurants and the home.

Celsis is refusing to discuss the nature of sureWIPE, its product, while it awaits patent protection, However, Arthur Holden, chief executive, believes sureWIPE offers Celsis exciting opportunities to develop new markets in restaurants

and the home.

He said the product is cheaper, much easier to use and offers equal performance to systemSURE, the compa-ny's portable monitor. Celsis hopes to launch sureWIPE next summer, extending it to consumer markets in 1999.

Celsis said it was "moving rapidly towards profitability. Results for the six months to September 30 showed pre-tax losses reduced from £2.7 million to £850,000 on sales 70 per cent higher at £7 million. About half the £2.9 million growth in turnover came from last year's acquisition of Lumac, a rival.

The company has sold more than 3,150 of its instruments and expects substantial sales growth of the reagents needed to make them work. Reagents offer higher margins and nine

## close down **Hong Kong** operation

RICHARD MILES BANKING CORIESPONDENT

NATWEST embarked on an overhaul of its hivestment banking operation yesterday by announcing the closure of its debt business in Hong Kong with the loss of \$5 jobs. A spokeswoman for Nat-West Markets said the remaining 50 employees based in Hong Kong would be transferred to Tokyo or Singa-pore, where its global debt business will be relocated over the next three to five

"Our clients have been informed of the restructuring which will allow us to focus our presence outside Hong Kong," she said, adding that it was not possible to put a figure on the cost of the reorganisation.

NatWest Markets' withdrawal of its debt business from Hong Kong — it retains an equities business there — is the result of an ongoing strategic review begun in April when Chip Kruger took the helm at the investment bank.

an unsolicited offer for its equities business from Deutsche Morgan Grenfell. The bank said DMG's offer, reportedly £150 million for a business valued by City analysts at £300 million, was not in the inter-

## Bupa wants £3bn of VAT spent on NHS

THE biggest medical insurer in the UK has called on the Government to use £3 billion of revenue raised via VAT to help to fund the National Health Service. Bupa said yesterday that ringfencing a proportion of VAT revenues and investing it in hospitals and healthcare would be the equivalent of spending an extra 0.5 per cent of gross domestic product on the NHS.

The call came from Sir Terence English, chief medical adviser to Bupa and a former President of the Royal College of Surgeons. at a debate on public healthcare in London. Sir Terence added: "An increase in funding of the NHS should be accompanied by a policy of educating the public as to what might reasonably be expected from it. No country will ever be rich enough to afford all that medical science is capable of providing."

His call came as health insurers revealed that demand for

private medical insurance policies has been flat since the general election, and a number of older policyholders had not renewed their insurance after the removal of tax relief on medical insurance for the over 60s. The tax relief, which was scrapped in Gordon Brown's first Budget, was costing the Exchequer £140 million a year.

#### Abbey jobs for Belfast

ABBEY NATIONAL is to create 438 jobs in Belfast by investing £5.4 million in a new software centre and the development of its telephone centre in the Province. The Industrial Development Corporation is putting up £3.3 million towards the cost of the two projects by offering "selective financial assistance" to Abbey National The bank intends to spend £1.3 million to set up a financial software and development centre, providing about 100 jobs, mostly at the graduate level.

#### Rolls wins £127m order

ROLLS-ROYCE is to supply Trent engines for up to 19 Air Canada aircraft in a deal worth about US\$213 million (£127 million) initially. The engines will power the nine Airbus A330-300 airliners that Air Canada agreed to buy in August. The airline has options on ten more of the aircraft. If it takes up these options, the engine deal could be worth \$450 million to Rolls-Royce, which bear off competition from GE and Pratt & Whitney to secure the contract. Air Canada is the fourteenth Trent engine customer.

#### Powerscreen ahead

POWERSCREEN INTERNATIONAL, the engineer, has reported a 16 per cent rise in its pre-iax profits for the six mouths to September 30, as sales growth in North America, the UK and the irish Republic made up for a fall in turnover in continental Europe. The profits of £23.6 million included about £500,000 contributed by the Doggett business, bought earlier this year. Turnover was up 13 per cent, to £17 million. An interim dividend of 3.1p (2.8p) is to be paid on February

#### Hays pays £17m for DEI

HAYS, the business services group, has acquired DEI Group, a document management company serving government departments and the corporate sector, for £17 million. DEI earned operating profits of £1.4 million in 1996. At the year end net assets were £1.7 million and net debt was £1.3 million: Have winch has its headquarters in Guildford; Survey, has spent more than \$100 million on acquisitions in recent weeks; including the £65 million purchase of ICS, a

#### Cookson sells Anzon

COOKSON GROUP, the UK industrial materials company, has sold its US antimony products business to Great Lakes Chemical Corp for \$90 million (£53.45 million). Anzon, which was part of Cookson's plastics division, makes fire retardant additives for the plastics industry and has operations in the UK, US, Mexico and South Africa. Cookson said the disposal makes a pre-tax profit of £20 million. The company's gearing will fall to about 25 per cent. The sale takes Cookson out of the plastic additives business altogether.

#### Sales surge for Adidas

ADIDAS, the German manufacturer of sports goods, lifted net profits 38.7 per cent to DM449 million (£155 million) in the first nine months of 1997, helped by a strong advance in sales in North America. Group sales rose 42.3 per cent to DM5.284 in North America. Group sales ruse 42.5 per cent to DND 205 billion. Sales in North America rose 58 per cent to DM1.258 billion. Sales in Europe, which remains the company's principal market, rose 31 per cent to DM3.359 billion. In September, Adidas unveiled plans to buy Salomon, the French winter sports equipment group.

#### Sims rises after shake-up

SIMS FOOD GROUP, the supplier of meat products to the food services sector that is emerging from a period of extensive restructuring, lifted pre-tax profits to £1.04 million from £710,000 in the six months to September. Turnover from continuing operations rose to £22.7 million from £18.1 million. After the disposal of Sims's retail business borrowings were reduced by £128 million in the first half. Earnings were 2.1p (1.7p) a share. There is again no interim dividend but a final dividend may be paid.

#### Meyer expands tool hire

MEYER INTERNATIONAL is to acquire 22 tool hire and catering equipment hire branches from Torex to further expand the specialist tool hire business of its Jewson subsidiary in the South West of England. The Torex branches had 1996 sales of £6.1 million and earned profits of £865,000 before interest and tax. Last mouth Meyer announced the £318 million acquisition of the Harcros chain of builders' merchants from Harrisons & Crostield, to be part-funded

# Cadbury cuts US jobs in new cola-war manoeuvre

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

ping this year, while Coke's

CADBURY SCHWEPPES is restructuring its US operations to protect ambitious targets for profit growth and to win back market share from Coca-Cola and Pepsi.

Dr Pepper/Seven Up Inc. Cadbury's biggest operating division, is shedding more than 100 head office staff to cut costs. The IO per cent cut will not affect the marketing and advertising departments. which are at the heart of the cola wars, a spokesman said. Sales of Dr Pepper, Seven

Up. Schweppes and other Cad-

bury brands have been slip-

increased its market share. The success of the head office cost-cutting and a Seven Up relaunch may determine the fate of John Sunderland, the Cadbury chief executive. He has promised the City to-

increase profits by at least 10 per cent a year. Cadbury acquired Dr Pepper/Seven Up two years ago for £1.6 billion in the hope of rivalling Coke and Peosi in their home market. However,

it has failed to exceed a market

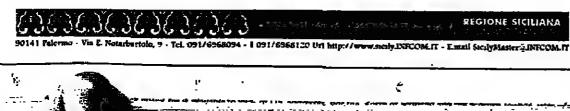
share of 15 per cent, with sales

Sprite, a direct competitor, has market growing at 3 per cent. The average American drinks 900 cans of soft drink a year, 43 per cent of them Coke brands and 31 per cent Pepsi brands. Rivalry between drinks companies has intensi-fied recently. To regain the initiative in the cola war, Cadbury has relaunched its Seven Up drink after making its taste closer to Coke's sourer and more successful Sprite. Cadbury, unlike Coke and

growth of only 1 per cent in a Pepsi, owns no US bottling plants. Analysts believe that it will be forced to buy bottlers.

ar East





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shade. Sicily is many things, but remains one special place in a world of its own.

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Parent strength

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Sales Share for the

Mary 1888 A. T. S. Mary S. M. Sales S.

cer's figures. Yesterday, he was in cracking form, lambasting those who did not fully appreciate the M&S achievements or might not have fully understood the grant's crabbilities.

the group's ambitions.

The scale of neither should be under-estimated. Sir Richard's tendency to interpret any criticism of the company as a personal slight tends to encourage a touch of bear-batting but the fact is that his reign at M&S has been remarkable. Profits have doubled since he tree! its have doubled since he took over as chairman six years ago and now, in terms of its return on sales, the company beats any international rival.

Retaining that position in a hugely competitive market is tough but M&S is succeeding. If initial reaction to its 5 per cent profits growth was disappoint-ment, it was more due to unreasonable expectations than a rational appreciation of how the company had coped. And if Sir Richard had hoped for a whoop of surprise and a boost to the shares because of his expansion programme, then he would have done better to have kept them under wraps for a great unveiling rather than let them seep into the weekend press.

Nonetheless, the plans do de-serve applause. They mean that

three years from now, a quarter of the group's floorspace will be outside the UK, well on the way to qualifying the company for the fashionable designation of being a "global" operator. And while M&S is adamant that it has also the state of some the control of the state of some the control of the state of the plenty of scope to grow in the UK, the pace of growth can only be maintained into the future if new markets are broached.

That may mean new formats as well as new territories. Do not forget that M&S discovered financial services long before the supermarkets did. It took its time, but can now book a £100 million profit from that sector. The new catalogue business will also develop gradually, but has long-term potential to bring in

Sir Richard intends to see that potential realised. Now 61, he is intent on staying firmly at the helm of M&S until he reaches 65. Those City scribblers who have pondered on who will succeed him are apparently to be left to ponder, for he sees no need to clarify the position yetawhile.

Suggestions that he might become a non-executive chairman always seemed to defy the nature of the beast, so there is no need for the appointment of a

Sir Richard Greenbury's contempt for teenage scribblers, both in the media and the City, always adds a frisson of excitement to the publication of Marks & Spencer's figures. Vectorday ha mes



**COMMENTARY** by our City Editor

him. Sir Richard's decision to stay in office until he is 65 seems to militate against Keith Oates, his current deputy, stepping into his shoes.

The competition now must concentrate on the younger generation of M&S directors. Insiders say that Peter Salsbury, the joint managing director whose raft of responsibilities range from property to person-nel, may eventually be given St Michael's blessing.

#### It's politics, stupid

f the British Government was ever in any doubt about the intensely political nature of the EMU endgame, then yesterday's decision by the French Government to put for-ward its own candidate for Governor of the European Central Bank should shatter any illusions. Gordon Brown talked

only last week about taking a constructive approach to a single currency and making vital isions on the basis of sound economics. The French have duly responded with a strong dose of destructive real-politik.

The French Government is desperate to derail the campaign to install Wim Duisenberg, cur-rent head of the European Monetary Institute, as the first Central Bank Governor. Mr Duisenberg has the virtues of being popular and respected in the markets and is acceptable to the vast majority of European Union members. But as far as the French are concerned he is too close to the Germans for comfort — after all, anyone who wins the Germanbased "European Banker of the year award" must be suspect.

After giving in to the Germans over the siting of the ECB in Frankfurt and the establishment of a stability pact, Gallic pride cannot countenance any further loss of influence. The French are

frightened that under Mr Duisenberg the ECB will be-come a model of the Bundesbank under German domination.

France's chosen candidate, Jean-Claude Trichet, Governor of the Bank of France, is also well respected in the markets but is highly unlikely to prove acceptable to German public opinion. The suspicion is that M Trichet, who is no great ally of President Chirac, is merely a decoy can-didate designed to stop Duisenberg, When deadlock en-sues, the French will suddenly pull a compromise candidate out of their chapeau. Step forward Michel Camdesssus, managing director of the International Monetary Fund, who has a vast wealth of experience running major international organisations and whose stock is high due to the IMFs very public involvement in South East Asia. In French eyes, he also has the ultimate virtue of being French.

Alternatively, the French may be

trying to extract some other policy concession from the Germans. France has made no secret of its desire to see greater political control over the ECB. Whatever the ultimate plan, it is going to be a tough and exciting battle before a final decision on the ECB Governor is reached next May. But Gordon Brown should

#### Eddie can afford to be steady

Today was marked down in money-watchers' diaries three months ago as a big meeting of the Bank of England's new monetary committee. In August, the Bank put base rates up a quarter point to 7 per cent but added riders. It reckoned this last adjustment of a series was enough to get inflation back on

target on the facts at the time. Barring earthquakes, the Bank also intended to leave rates unchanged until it pored over the economic tea-leaves again. That meant the next quarterly Infla-tion Report, which should now be at hand. All too often, however, decisive moments marked up by the markets in advance turn out to have no great signifi-

cance when they arrive. This looks to be a case in point.

In three months, the exchange rate has dipped 3 per cent but buoyancy has left the stock market even if the FTSE 100 index is little changed. Money is still expanding too fast but retail sales have stalled, maybe due to the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales, maybe not Interest rates Wales, maybe not. Interest rates are up a shade in Germany. whose policies the Bank seeks to parallel, but not yet in the US.

Three months of new information has not, on the whole, added much to the wisdom of those responsible for setting UK in-terest rates. So the sensible course seems to be to take no action after the meeting finishes tomorrow. One thing is certain: any change would surprise the financial markets. That might bring out the devil in some committee members, but surely not in steady Eddie George.

#### Swiss timing

JUST a week more nail biting to go down at Canary Wharf then. Well, not quite. In macho mood, Barclays has now set a timetable for CSFB to complete the BZW deal. But what happens if, having looked a little more closely, CSFB decides that, perhaps, it is not that keen after all? All over the City, bankers are gloating over the predicament that Barclays finds itself in, but they are silent on what the bank should do if the CSFB deal fails.

# Far East crisis fails to disrupt BP's strategy

BY CARL MORTISHED

BRITISH PRIROLEUM is to continue to invest heavily in the Far East in spite of recent market turmoil in the region, the oil company said yesterday as it unveiled an II per cent rise in third-quarter profits.

The company will spend up to \$400 million in South-East Asia this year and has plans to expand a polyethylene plant in Indonesia, in spite of that country's financial crisis.

BP has petrochemicals interests in China, Malaysia and Korea. John Browne, chief executive, said that the company's Far East interests were secure. Our present reading is that the stock. market turngoil will not affect demand." he said. BP's third-quarter replace-

ment cost profit came in near the top end of expectations at £691 million (£650 million) thanks to a strong performance from the downstream chemicals and refining and marketing businesses. Mr Browne said that BP had already exceeded its target of \$300 million in performance improvements for the year, with a \$450 million gain in hand. BP expects to have achieved, by the end of the year, more than \$1 billion of its \$1.5 billion programme of performance enhancements. and Mr Browne promised that



John Browne, chief executive, saw BP lift profits 11 per cent

new targets would be set in the

cent in the 28 weeks to Septem-

ber 13, from £6.6 million to £5.5 million, mainly because

of a El.2 million VAT adjust-

ment. Turnover rose slightly

from £32 million to £33.8

£761 million to £674 million. spring.

BP's upstream oil and gas business suffered from a fall Effects of a 3 per cent decline in oil output and a \$2 fall in the oil price were only partly offset by higher gas produc-tion. Delay in bringing on stream the Foinaven field, in oil production, leaving third-quarter exploration and production profits down from

day of lost production. Mr Browne said that BP would, over the next 12 months. bring on stream ten oil and gas fields, capable of boosting pro-duction by 400,000 barrels of oil and gas equivalent per day. He said that capital expenditure was rising and would increase debt from the current \$6 billion to nearer \$7 billion. "Our view is that competition is on the march everywhere," he

BPs refining and marketing result was up 82 per cent on the previous year to £265 million for the quarter, with significant gains from the BP/Mobil joint venture and higher retining margins in the : Mr Browne predicted that BP would achieve post-tax gains of \$200 million from the joint venture by the end of the year. Overall volumes were up 10 per cent worldwide, but BP still cannot sell the Lavera refinery in France. The company expects the French strikes to affect deliveries by the end of the week.

Chemicals profits rose from £130 million to £137 million because of higher volumes; capacity additions belped to boost production 11 per cent. The quarterly dividend is

maintained at 5.5p per share.

#### **Brokers bypass** Researcher runs TV test in Canada

BY RAYMOND SNODDY **МИРИТЕ АКОНИ** 

TAYLOR NELSON AGB, the UK's largest market research group, is returning to the North American television rating measuring market a decade after the first effort by the old AGB business ended in imuneial dissetter.

The UK company has been in talks with NBC, the US network company, which is interested in seeing competition developing to AC Neilsen, the dominant US

elevision ratings operator. This time, a move into North America is being made cautiously with a pilot scheme in the Vancouver area. Taylor Nelson is urging NBC to extend this to Seattle. across the US border, which

# volatile Sets

By RICHARD MILES, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

CTTY brokers are bypassing Sets, the Stock Exchange's new order-driven share trading system, in favour of conventional trading over the telephone.

Amid extreme volatility in the market, brokers are using Sets for less than 40 per cent of trades in FTSE 100 shares. On Monday that figure fell to just

33 per cent. Brokers have been deterred in part from using Sets be-cause of a series of technical difficulties, such as unusually wide spreads on share prices. particularly at the opening of trade, and low liquidity.

A Stock Exchange spokes-woman, however, said it was happy with the level of trades going through the order book. She said the exchange never of business, but declined to pat

a figure on its target ceiling.

Yesterday the exchange lifted the threshold for an automatic ten-minute suspension of a share from a 10 per cent difference in bid and offer prices to 20 per cent. It said the change had been made "in the light of experience".

Traders said the jury was still out on Sets, particularly given the volatility of markets. Martin Lupton, of Dresdner Kleinwort Benson's equities division, said: "It's only been working for two-and-a-half weeks so it's too early to call. Give it three months, then see

if the spreads are still wide." David Smith, co-head of equities trading at Merrill Lynch, said wide spreads in the lower reaches of the FTSE 100 were a fair reflection of the way business has always been yellow strip was a bit of an illusion," he said.

#### **Tradepoint** deals soar to £361.9m

BY ADAM JONES

MONTHLY trading figures released by Tradepoint, the electronic market set up to do battle with the London Stock Exchange, suggest a significant increase in the number of share trades in October.

The total traded value claimed by the company soared from £98.8 million to £361.9 million, it was announced yesterday.

However, a Tradepoint spokeswoman said the figure includes reports of trades through interdealer brokers. who act as middlemen between market-makers.

These bring in substantially less revenue since the loss making Tradepoint cut

charges on October 20. The spokeswoman would not say how many there were to have grown significantly in

# on the hard sell

BY CHIRIS AYRES

HARD-UP students are being targeted by Betterware, the door-to-door housewares retailer, to become part-time distributors, a job traditionally associated with housewives and pensioners.

The company, which is launching a major recruitment drive on university campuses, says low levels of unemployment have made recruitment difficult, and that students struggling to make ends meetare ideal candidates.

Peter Hartley, Betterware's managing director, said: "Students want to earn money during term time and will work for two to three hours a day, earning £40 to £50 a week. Obviously they also have to do the odd bit of

Pre-tax profits fell 17.4 per

### Real-life lessons | Braas family close to a bid for RBB

BY PAUL DUMMAN

THE minority shareholders in Redland Braas Building are close to making an offer for the roofing business, Lebman Brothers, their advisers, said last night.

RBB holds the key to the

million, while earnings per share fell from 4.2p to 3.5p. An interim dividend of 1.05p (1p) fate of Redland, the building materials company that is struggling to defeat a £1.67 will be paid on January 5. Betterware said it would billion offer from Lafarge, the continue to develop joint ven-French cement and concrete group. Helga Bruhn-Braas, the Braas family's representa-tive on Redland's board, retures with Avon, the door-todoor beauty products retailer, especially in the Far East and signed yesterday to con-centrate on preparing the bid Eastern Europe. It shrugged off the threat of Internet

shopping as a problem for at least five years. Kyril Saxe-Coburg at Leh-man Brothers said: "It's immi-Betterware attributed a nent. There are still a few disappointing performance on customers objecting to catamoving parts. We are obviously logues immediately after the spending 24 hours a day on this to make sure we get there."

City estimates have suggestdeath of Diana. Princess of

ed Redland's 56.5 per cent stake in RBB is worth about E800 million. Mr Saxe-Coburg said the Braas family, which still owns 31.5 per cent of RBB, will make its offer jointly with Schwenk and Dyckerhof, the two German cement companies that own the remaining 12 per cent of

> Rudolph Agnew, Redland chairman, is willing to sell any or all of the company's businesses to extract a better deal for shareholders.

interest prevented her from signing Redland's defence document last week. Under the terms of the RBB deal, the Braas family can match any offer for the business should Redland want to sell. Redland shares fell 5½p to 329½p.

Mrs Bruhn-Braas's conflict

# Mature taste lifts Dairy Crest

By DOMINIC WALSH

DAIRY CREST, the former processing arm of the old Milk Marketing Board, is reaping the benefits of a growing consumer taste for more mature cheddar cheese. John Houliston, chief execu-tive, said the UK's mature and farmhouse cheddar sector was

worth more than £500 million, having risen 5 per cent in the first half of the year. Dairy Crest, which came to the stock market just over a year ago, has a 35 per cent market share through its Davidstow and Cathedral City brands, which sell at



Cathedral City's volumes

were up almost a third in the

between £6.50 and £8 a kilo- That performance helped the gram, compared with about £3 for mild cheddar. promp to push up pre-tax profits from £16.5 million to £18.7 million, from turnover 3

per cent better at £392 million. Its consumer foods division,

which includes Clover dairy spread, reported a 14 per cent rise in operating profit to £14.7 million, while food services dipped from £6.4 million to £5.4 million, reflecting the effect of the strong pound on ingredients markets. Competition meant milk

despite volume growth of 8 per cent, although lower costs meant profits rose in the declining doorstep market. Earnings per share rose to 11.8p (10.5p) and an interim dividend of 3.5p (3.26p) will be paid on January 22.

CHOXIDO DID.





# Broker's top ten rating sets Next shares jumping

THE best performer among the top 100 companies was Next, after leading City commentators predicted a revival in the fortunes of the high street retailer.

The price rebounded 47p to 734p on turnover of almost 2.7 million shares after Morgan Stanley decided to include Next in its list of top ten buys. Word is that it has also been included in a US broker's buy list. This is likely to encourage a fresh wave of institutional support.

At the same time, other brokers such as Dresdner Kleinwort Benson were urging clients to switch out of Marks & Spencer, down 10p at 600p, and into Next. This pointing interim results and in spite of a pledge by M&S to spend £2.1 billion on a major expansion programme.

Next had suffered a setback on Monday after Charterhouse Tilney, the broker, cast doubts over the group's earnings potential during 1997. Recent figures also disappointed the market, with like-for-like sales during August showing only modest improvement.

The rest of the equity market spent a lacklustre session, choosing to dwell on the overnight setback for the Hang Seng of 474 points. The 232-point surge in the Dow Jones industrial average was ignored with investors, instead, bracing themselves for opening falls when New York

resumed trading last night.
As a result, the FTSE 100 index endured a 51-point turnaround to close 9.0 down at 4.897.4. Trading was again thin, with just 739 million changing hands.

There are signs that the speculators are starting to get cold feet in Redland, currently the subject of a 320p a share offer from Lafarge, the French group. The price has been as high as 340p, with the speculators pinning their hopes on a counter-bid. Last night the price slipped 41ap to 3291ap and now stands just 912p The Redland board may be hard-pressed to improve on the deal already on the table.

That overnight hiccup for the Hang Seng in Hong Kong again hit those companies

with close connections to the Far East. HSBC tumbled 59p El4.93, Standard Chartered was down 12p at 656p and Cable & Wireless 812p off



Shares in Rank, owner of Hard Rock Cafe, firmed 134p

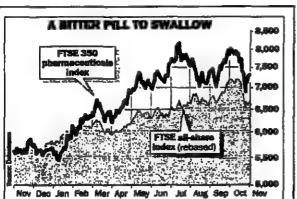
at 473p. Even Siebe was 17p down at £11.66, reflecting its exposure to Asia, along with

Unilever, 312p off at 45lp. Engineering slipped 112 to 16312p as a party of brokers began a tour of the

group's US operations.
Whitbread was a nervous market, slipping 15p to 790p ahead of half-year figures later pre-tax profits of £196 million compared with £178 million

British Airways, also reporting today, fell 1212p to 576p. Interim pre-tax profits expected to come out at £273 million, down from £459 million last time because of industrial action.

Cadbury Schweppes shrugged off reports claiming the group is about to axe 10 per cent of its soft drinks



INVESTORS are becoming increasingly choosey about which stocks to buy - even when it comes to blue chips. Yesterday saw a case in point, with Zeneca ending 43p lower, at £18.52, after a meeting with ABN Amro Hoare Govett on Monday, The broker is re-puted to have cut its target price from £17 to £15.50. By contrast, Glaxo Wellcome rose 27p, to £13.07, after

Kevin Scotcher, of Nat-West Securities, is not sur-prised. He says: "If you

SBC Warburg, the broker, told clients to "add" to their

look back to the beginning of the year, Glaso and NmithKline Beechum buve both outperformed Zeneca. In fact, Zeneca has badly

In these circumstances, it is not the best policy for investors to adopt blanket coverage. "In a sector which has reached its all-time high and has since come off, currently stand-ling 9 per cent below its relative high, you have to learn to stock pick," says Mr Scotcher.

That nevertive he says

That necessity, he says becomes more acute during the 110 jobs will go in Dallas at the headquarters of its Seven Up and Dr Pepper drinks business, which has come under fierce competition from Coca-Cola and Pepsi. The shares rose 4p to 595p. A "buy" recommendation from Credit Lyonnais Laing lifted United

Assurance 11<sup>1</sup>2p to 502p.

The appointment of Kevin Hand as chief executive of Emap was warmly received in the City, with the shares marked up 1314p at 87212p. Only last week, Reed Elsevier put IPC, its magazine publishing business, up for sale. The 50-strong title group could be worth up to £800 million. Reed international rose 24p to 605p on the back of some

the broker. Rank Group firmed 134p to 336p as the company began a two-day tour of its leisure activities with a party of brokers. They will visit Butlins, Hard Rock Cafe and

the bingo operations.
Holmes Place proved it was no slouch at the start of firsttime dealings. The health and fitness centres group saw its shares placed at 123p, with the price opening at 14712p. It closed at its best of the day with a rise of 42p at 170p on turnover of 3.4 million shares. News of a bid approach lifted Wellman, the thermal engineer and garage operator.

63 p to 37p. A warning about the outcome for the year as a whole left Betterware mursing a fall

☐ GILT-EDGED: Prices traded in narrow limits for closing mixed. Investor sentiment remained preoccupied with tomorrow's decision on

interest rates.

In the futures pit, the December series of the long gilt finished three ticks better at £11812 after trading in limits of Ell8516 and Ell8916. The total number of contracts completed reached 72,000.

In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2021 put on seven ticks at while in shorts Tre sury 7 per cent 2002 shed £132 at £10114.

NEW YORK: Wall Street

were lower after a voiance morning as the matr-ket sought a footing in the wake of the previous day's big run-up and Hong Kong's overnight drop. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 13.50 lower at 7,660.89.

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FISES:
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Reed int 605p (+24p)
Blacks Leis 459'sp (+17p)
Logica 88p (+26p)
Cettech:
French Conn
Nail Express 571 p (+14p)
Boots 887p (+20p)
FALLS:
Hutch Whamp 4134 (-32p)
Scot & New 678p (-26p)
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790p (-15p) 658p (-12p) 600p (-10p)

# Easy to swallow

its portfolio, it is in gas.

where it is missing out on the

high prices currently fetched

by the fuel in the US market.

showed investors a picture of a snake digesting an dephant. This image, presumably taken from Saint-Exupery, was supposed to represent the broker's ability to absorb recent acquisitions — in particular, Alexander & Alexander. But the real message, Aon said. was that "The snake is still hungry".

The next elephant on the corporate menu could well be Willis Corroon, the UK broker that has long been under pressure from institutions to merge with its rival Sedgwick. Shareholders have become weary of waiting for Willis to deliver earnings growth. They are unlikely to be satisfied by the prospect of savines from more expensive redundancies.

With the share price currently at 124p, there would be some resistance amongst shareholders who bought Willis shares at 175p or even

IN a recent presentation. Aon Corporation :: 200p to accept an offer from Aon in the range showed investors a picture of a snake of 130p to 135p. However, there is little sign that earnings in the UK broking sector are likely to bounce in the short-term. US brokers are ahead of the UK in the art of cost-cutting and upgrading computer systems. Quick to undercut rivals in defence of their market share, this is turn sends commission rates

The Willis board, committed to continued independence, has pinned its hopes on an upturn in trading conditions. Over the past 12 months there has been precious little evidence that ratings and margins are about to improve. Willis and Sedgwick are too small to compete on a global scale and too big to exploit niche markets. A bid may come before the end of the year and investors might as well hang on. But no one should chase this stock.

earns on capital. Planned

share buybacks will flatter

that number, but sharehold-

ers who back BP have the

comfort of knowing that it is

more committed to share-

holder value than some in

BP

BP's continuing use of the phrase "self-help" to describe its may be just a touch self-congramiatory. Of the \$1 billion achieved so far, the company admits that 20 per cent relates to cost savings and the remainder to volume Yet, no one will complain if BP is producing more oil and finding a market for it. The astonishing story of the oil industry in recent years has been the way in which demand has grown to match supply. The shake out in finprice untroubled and there are few signs that energy demand is faltering.

BP is no longer a cost cutting story, but a business that needs to be judged on its ability to make big invest-ment bets. If there is a gap in However, the gas price is highly volatile and BP is building up its exposure the industry. Investment in The big question for BP is oil and gas is booming, but whether its projects will en-hance or diminish the 17 per ism could save it from the inevitable disasters to cross

cent return that it currently. MOT JUST SELF-HELP

#### Dairy Crest

ANY farmer still holding shares in Dairy Crest must feel like the cat who got the September 1996 fjust as the lapsing) the shares have been rising ever since, and yester-day's solid interim figures pushed them another op higher to 279½p. The farmers still have 60

per cent of the stock, but should they hang on in what is undoubtedly a tough market? The doorstep pints is an endangered species, accounting for less than a third of all milk sold. And even in the multiple retail sector, where power of the big supermarket chains combined to cancel

Still, management are making the right moves, cutting costs (profits from doorstep deliveries were marginally up) and putting

resources into premium cheese spreads and fresh dairy products. Talks overthe acquisition of Unigate's cheese business appear to have foundered over price, but size is not the inhibitor; with gearing just 18 per cent, Dairy Crest could accommodate a deal.

Assuming profits of £41 million, Dairy Crest is valued on 10.7 times earnings. A marked discount to the food sector, but with the shares still relatively illiquid, they are a hold rather than a buy.

#### **Emap**

A SAFE pair of hands, is how the succession at Emap is marked Emap's shares up as soon as the news came out: Anyone who was suprised by

been paying attention to Emap over the past year. The route was cleared for the Francophile and urbane

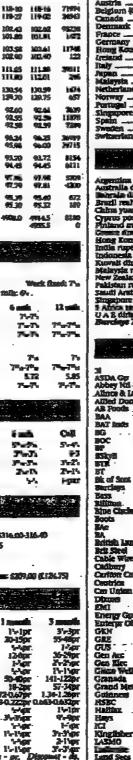
intrigue. The dynamic duo who spent 20 years building the group up — Robin Miller and David Arculus - seemed to fall out as the succession issue reared its ugly head, prompting Arculus's departure to United taking Tony Tillin, who ran the business publishing side, with him. This cleared the way for

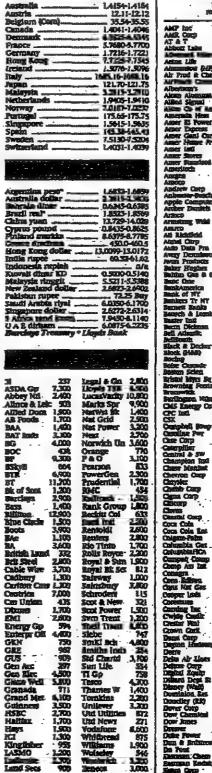
Hand to rise to the top. But what are we to make of Miller's transition to non-executive director. Pirc, the pendons consultants that attacked Emap about its succession problems last year, will not recognise him as independent. The temptation to interfere in the running of the business could be overwhelming.

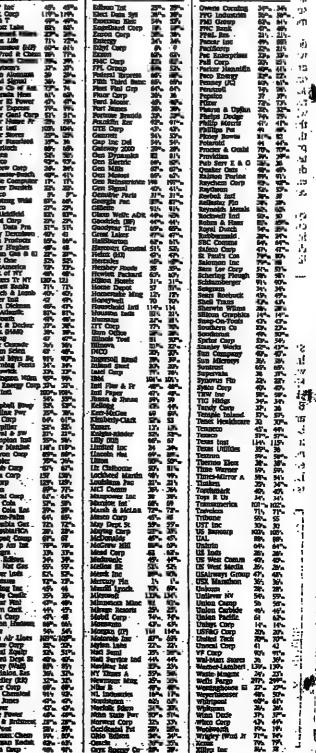
It may be time to take profits

**EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED** 









A t the heart of the Euro-constellation, shortly to be renamed EMU, yawns a black hole, threatening to suck in any economy which strays into its gravity field. The black hole is called insolvency.

This may, at first sight seem an outrageous statement. Surely, only Third World governments get into such dire straits. Surely insolvency couldn't arise in the heart of Europe? Unfortunately, it could, and all too easily. Sovereign defaults have never so far been a serious threat in the industrial world, not so much because of levels of economic development or supposedly greater fiscal responsi-bility. Rather, it is because most of the borrowing by Western governments has been denominated in their own domestic currencies. In contrast, Third World nations are often forced to borrow in foreign currency because their domestic capital markets are thin - and in

# The black hole at the heart of Europe

and because importers often insist

on payment in "hard currency".

Default among countries with largely domestic debts is virtually impossible because the government simply prints more money. Those who finance themselves through foreign debt don't have that option. Now apply this to economic and Central Bank in Frankfurt will have the sole prerogstive of printing euros. So EMU will reduce all its member governments to the status of local authorities as far as their borrowing is concerned.

All government borrowing will effectively be in foreign currency and the threat of default will hang

Laurence Copeland says economic and monetary union

sets a poverty trap and poses the threat of insolvency

fiscal irresponsibility will have low credit ratings and pay high rates of interest on their loans. More responsible governments will enjoy the benefits of the finest borrowing rates. Despite these variations in perceived credit quality, European interest rates have converged dramatically. Italian bunds are scarcerisker than those of Germany. The reason is not a suspension of the reality of market forces but

If an insolvent New York City was able to find a saviour even in the free market heyday of Reagan's presidency, the capital markets are betting that the European authorities will be forced to come to the aid of Italy or Spain, let alone France or Germany, if they are in distress. The pressure to bail out a country with a weak economy — or a weak will — is bound to prove irresistible. Suppose Prance suffered a funding crisis: imagine the consequences if Frankfurt ignored French pleas for funds. The air would be thick with the smell of bad blood from old wounds reopened. Ultimately, a

mutual recriminations or worse. The "no bail-out" clause written into the Maastricht treaty with such a situation in mind would prove as expendable as the convergence criteria as economics were tossed aside for political expediency.

All this would be irrelevant if there was no danger that some in the EMU-zone might allow their fiscal affairs to deteriorate to the point of insolvency. But it cannot be ruled out. The almost ubiquitous

their fiscal houses genuinely in order. Only Luxembourg will satisby the Maastricht borrowing conditions without cooking the books.

The predicament of Belgium and Italy is probably beyond the help of

In the run-up to spring 1998 when those lit to join the euro will be chosen, aspiring members had to behave like boxers trying to make the weight for a big fight, with spending cuts and tax increases sold to voters on the implicit or even explicit promise of a post-match blow-out. After 1998, they will revert to the psychology of any sad heavyweight, willpower sapped by the lack of deadline, reliant only on

self-discipline.

their belts with EMU as the prize. what hope is there when the prize

will, EMU members will face a stark choice: either to overspend, or to finance the overspending of the other member indefinitely. This is less a case of moral hazard, more

Laurence Copeland is Professor of Finance at Cardiff Business School. Janet Bush is on holiday.

people - and at the same time

see and bear what each other is

doing. The more expensive

systems have much more impressive quality, although they

use more telephone lines, thus

raising call costs even further.

However, for international meetings especially, the money

and time saved by using video

conferencing can be enormous. Cameras can be panned

in and out, and separate fixed

units can be used to show

close-ups of, say, a microchip.

about the practical applica

German carmaker. Because

many Mercedes dealerships

are small, they cannot afford to

hire their own advisors to sell

the company's financial services products. Instead,

Mercedes has hired a team of

advisers who work from a

national video conferencing

centre, where they deal with

about 50 customers a day.

only £5,000 on a BT video

phone - a compact screen and

phone in one unit — to give

cess to the com-

pany's top finan-

dai sales team.

Mercedes says it

has seen a 25 per

cent rise in finan-

sales since in-

stalling the

equipment. It

has the added

their customers immediate ac-

Those who are sceptical

# One way or another, the end is nigh for Britain's shopping boom

The forecasts

from Marks & Spencer may be

bullish, but

Douglas . McWilliams

says the retail party is over

n the immediate after math of the tragic death of Diana, Princess of Wales, I pointed out that there would be a negative impact on retail sales for September. In the event, the 1.9 per cent drop was twice as large as can be attributed solely to what I termed the "Diana effect".

Does this mean that Britain's retailing bonanza is com-ing to an end?

Retail sales growth has been boosted in the past two years potent mooure of rising ployment, tax cuts, low interest rates and building stillery windfalls. At the same time, the virtual disappearance of negative equity in the housing market, a booming stock marlest and diminishing job inse-brity have boosted consumer confidence.

Before the September drop, retail sales were running 10 per cent higher than two years earlier. This is about twice the pace of growth that is sustainable in the long term. The choice, therefore, is between an Eighties-style continuation of the boom until it causes an inflation-driven bust, or a soft landing, with the consumer's spending impulses being moderated at an early stage.

My instinct is that moderation will prevail this time. The windfall bonanza has ended and is unlikely to be repeated on anything like the same scale During 1997, consumers received £30 billion from windfalls, about 5 per cent of their disposable incomes. Although, as most economists predicted, only about a quarter of this will have been spent during the year, this is still enough to add more than I per

cent to consumer spending. The shape of the economic cycle has been especially fav-ourable to disposable incomes in 1997. Prices have been held down by the strength of sterling, while wages and salaries



Shappers have been out in force this year and a bumper Christmas season is forecast. However, restraint is likely to be the order of the day in early 1998

— unless the pound rises further — the higher exchange rate is a one-off whose effects on inflation wear off after a

Another reason for expecting consumer spending growth to slow is politics. With Tony Blair now master of all that he surveys, it is easy to forget that economic policy for most of the 1996-97 period was dominated by a Conservative government trying to win re-election. Taxes were cut by the November Budgets of both 1995 and 1996, and Kenneth Clarke avoided raising interest rates in early 1997 against the advice of most economic experts, including

the Bank of England. Post election, the position has changed. Interest rates are now set by the politically independent Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England and have been raised four times since the election. If the stock market turmoil of the past week causes the committee to stay its hand at its meeting tomorrow, it remains clear that further increases are

on the cards. The Government's singleminded attitude towards reelection means that we are likely to be spared the swinge-ing tax increases imposed by

The combination of the end of windfalls with the swing in the political cycle and slower growth in disposable income means that the consumer boom will have ended by mid-1998. The question of greatest importance to retailers is how soon the boom will unwind. Shelves are being filled for a bumper Christmas spending season this year. If the boom

The tool of economic analysis is insufficiently precise to answer this question with certainty. The critical factor will be consumer confidence. Stock market volatility is bad for confidence, especially for senior management and those working in the City. However, barring meltdown, the remaining influences on confidence are positive. House prices have

Littlewoods failed to thrive in the retail boom, and Marks & Spencer is buying some sites

have edged up as skill short—tions. However, taxes and ends early, this stock will have risen to the point at which goods sold in January is determined. These charges will probably edge to be cleared in the January positive equity, rather than mined by how much is left on negative, has become relevant. Job insecurity remains, but is much less a worry now than when the economy was weak and unemployment was high. The election has resolved polit-

ical uncertainties. On balance, therefore, it looks as if a bumper Christmas spending season is in prospect. If this happens, the spending slowdown will start in January. The volume of

the strength of demand merely determines how low prices have to be cut in order to move the unsold stock. If Christmas sales are high, expect only modest price cuts in January, with sales volumes falling. It is worth noting that the effects of the end of the consumer spending boom will be differentiated between sectors. Consumer durables, and especially cars, have been particu-

larly affected by windfalls, and

sales may even fall in 1998.

The travel industry may fare better because sterling's strength is reducing the cost of travel abroad. Perhaps the most buoyant consumer sector for 1998 is likely to be the leisure sector. The slower growth in spend-ing power will do little to hold back the trend for British people to spend more in restaurants, bars, clubs and

sports centres. However, if spending in the high street and shopping centres does not slow down early in 1998, it is a racing certainty that interest rates will be raised to ensure that the bubble is burst later in the year.

Douglas McWilliams is chief executive of the Centre for Economics and Business Research Ltd.

#### sound like an important business tool. Marketing gurus would argue that the term videophone carries with it a rather cheap and nasty 1970s sci-fi image. Companies such stand to make a fortune if the technology catches on - want customers to think business,

gain control of the video conferencing market is moving at a frantic pace, with technology now cheap enough for people with under £1,000 of consider installing it in their

own homes, as well as in the office. Prices for PC systems have fallen from about £2,500 two years ago to under £700 today for BT's DVS100. For that price, customers get a card for their PC, a camera to put on top of it and will also need an ISDN telephone line, costing about £200, which essentially allows the videophone to use two lines simultaneously for greater quality. Unfortunately for the customer - but great news for telephone companies — this has the side effect of doubling

the cost of calls. The quality of picture and sound on these systems is still fairly poor, but good enough to be useful. Slower computers will give the user the appearance of a badly dubbed actor in a pirated Japanese kung-fu movie. To get some kind of quality yardstick, customers should think of the BBC's live broadcasts - which use up to 1,000 telephone lines simultaneously — compared with the two used by a £700 PC system. Video conferencing allows

users to work on the same computer documents as someone else — or several other

has already been won? These are the sort of considerations that motivated the stability pact, the patently unworkable German proposal for a system of fines on profligate EMU members. The idea of some kind of European traffic cop pinning fiscal speeding tickets on offending gov-ernments strains credulity. EMU is already unpopular without telling voters that it involves sacrificing national automony in fiscal as well as monetary policy. if the stability pact proves un-workable, as it almost certainly

like Europe's national poverty trap.

# How the video conference keeps business in the picture

Prices are falling as telecoms groups aim for increased usage. Chris Ayres reports

ideo conferencing could yet become the corporate status symbol of the 1990s, a decade behind the to be used by brickies as stockbrokers. Although the equipment involved is still rather dumsy and expensive, manufacturers are currently cutting prices to boost interest in the

In Britain 10,000 businesses are estimated to use video conferencing technology, with more than 250,000 companies using videophones worldwide. Telephone companies confidently predict that within two years videophones will become

The term video conferencing not Barbarella. The battle to

Some users look like badly dubbed actors in a kung-fu movie

benefit of Impressing cedes customers and boosting the company's high-tech image. Nissan, another car manufacturer, also uses video conferencing to hold meetings between European sites, and made more than 1,500 calis last

Video conferencing also allows companies or individuals to work effectively without having to be based in Central London, Attinger Jack Advertising an agency in Dorset, says video conferencing allows it to compete with multinational agencies in London.

The company says it can

dramatically cut the presentation time for new campaigns by using the technology to show video, text and graphics to clients. They can work on campaigns, budgets and schedules without having to travel to London, saving both time and travelling expenses. The future of video confer-

encing will ultimately depend on how willing people are to conduct all their business from the same office. For the technology to work, calls must be cheaper than travelling. People's offices will also have to have a great view.

NEWS SPORT WHAT'S ON FUN KNOWLEDGE MONEY SHOPPING TALK INTERNET

# Hurn pay

SIR ROGER HURN put Smiths Industries on the map as a business worth EZ7 billion. Yet in November Hurn, who had been chairman and Frief executive, brought in Keith Butler-Wheelhouse as chief executive and heir apparent. And he has since been busy elsewhere, what with interviewing at Stanhope Gate for a next job as chairman of GEC and engineering the departure of Sean Lance at Glaxo Wellcome, where he is deputy chairman.



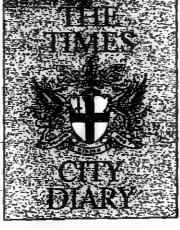
We're in luck M&S is planning to open a branch here soon

responsibilities at Smiths does not seem to be reflected in salaries. The accounts just out show that Butler-Wheelhouse pulled in £702,000 all told. For nine months work, Hurn's total pay actually rose by £19,000, to £719,000. Annualise this, and you find that the job that one man did for £700,000 one year, two men were paid £1.6 million to do the next. Smiths people mutter about "a handover year". But it does not exactly look like value for money.

IS THIS the easiest job on the Euro-gravy train? I have an invitation from Brussels to some awful conference on tourism this week, signed by Fernand Boden, styled "minister for middle classes and tourism of the Grand Duchy of Locembourg. A state whose 147 inhabitants are all resolutely middle class and which no one would want to visit answay.

#### Just 'deserts'

SINCE we are being beastly to foreigners, I see our French chums are up to their old tricks again. No. not closing down every road in France, although I remember a true story from the last stoppage told to me by a British transport firm. Apparently.



the French police would helpfully take over the blockading trucks and look after them whenever the drivers wanted to go off for a three-hour hmch. Anyway. This week is the oc-casion of the latest International Trade Fair in Baghdad, whose ruler is again trying our patience.

For the first time since the Gulf War, Western firms are there. The British and Americans are not welcome. But there are a few Germans, who did not fight in the war, and a scattering of Italians, who did. The French, our gallant co-belligerents, have turned out in droves. They have taken an entire pavilion, with 40 companies in oil, food, and pharmacenticals. Serve them right if the place blows up again and Saddam uses them as a human shield.

( 108 W 12 178)

 SOME unkind souls in the Liberty camp have been challenging the cre-dentials of Odile Griffith, the charming corporate financier who is advising the Stewart-Liberty family in their spat with the store's management. No mention of her name was found in a recent trawl of the Securi-ties and Futures Authority. Has she been practising the black arts without a licence, some ask? Let me put the record straight. Until last Friday Griffith, although an independent, was employed by NatWest and so registered through them. Now she has shaken off the shackles and runs RKR Corporate Finance, her own business. And from Monday has been registered personally with the SFA. If it's any of your business.

#### Namespotting

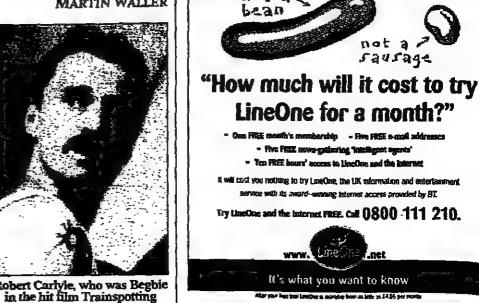
AN ANNOUNCEMENT of an acc ounting marriage catches my eye. Buchler Philips Traynor is merging with Begbies — Begbie? Wasn't that the man in Trainspotting played by Robert Cartyle who kept hitting people? We'll let it pass — to create ... Begbies Traynor. So gone are the names of Buchler and Philips. We will never hear them in open court again. Like we did that day in July when Buchler Philips, along with Nabarro Nathanson, were castigated by Mr Justice Perris for their conduct in the Maxwell receivership.

His honour put it thus, did be not?

"Having in this way done my best to set out the figures objectively, I cannot escape saying that I find them profoundly shocking. If the amounts claimed are allowed in full this receivership will have produced substantial rewards for the receivers and their lawyers and nothing at all for creditors of the estate." Funnily enough, several other people I know also associate Buchler Philips with that shameful court case. And now the name will disappear, to be re-placed with that of a fictional Scottish psychopath. Which some might regard as an improvement. MARTIN WALLER



Robert Carlyle, who was Begbie



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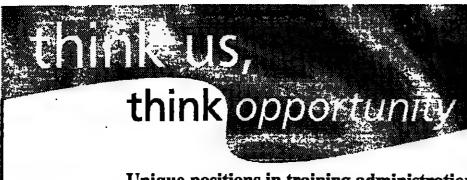
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Required from early 1998, this varied role involves a broad spectrum of tasks - from co-ordinating the booking of training rooms to liaising with training providers. Updating the training database and preparing reports will also be part of this role. You will be educated to at least 'O' level/GCSE standard with good secretarial, computer

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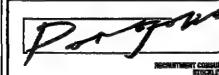
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CHRIS WARD

# Start at the top - and work up

and it seems this is all down to hard work, intelligence and skill.
Judged Yellow Pages PA of the year, she has not only landed top secretarial jobs throughout her career, but when she was unable to re-cruit good secretaries for a company she worked for she

took a two-year City and

Guilds course to become a

lecturer in the secretarial skills

she was looking for.

Miss Parr, 41, says she entered for PA of the year with no thought of even getting on the shortlist, let alone win-ning. She had been egged on by her boss, Peter Hehir, chairman of the public relations consultancy Country-wide Porter Novelli, who calls her a world-class personal assistant. His official reward

for supporting her is a houry weekend break for two. She has certainly revolu tionised the secretarial role in the company. "The word secretary is not used here," Ms Parr says. "Those who work on a one to one basis with their boss are called PAs and those working as part of a client handling team are communi-

da Parr is just too Ada Parr built on

her first-class office skills to

become PA of the year, says Susan

MacDonald

"Before I joined there was a regular secretarial hunch, but I thought this was not good enough," she says. So in order to promote and support their work she set up a PA network called Pals (personal assistants' learning support) which covers Countrywide Porter Novelli's six offices, including one in Brussels.

"We share best practice on a daily basis and I have written a training manual for all support staff, setting out what is expected and detailing the different areas of expertise, such as telephone technique and client handling. We all learn about these areas, even if they are not part of our daily work," she says.

Ms Parr was born in St Andrews and after leaving school with the Scottish equiv-

in secretarial studies with German, German shorthand, and French.

You could say she started at the top and worked her way up. Certainly her CV makes it clear that she deserves her award. Her first job, as PA to the managing director of a German hydraulics manufacturer, lasted six years - including a year in Germany before she was head hunted to be PA to the managing director and technical translator for another German company.

German shorthand everyday in those two jobs," she says. Then came a two-year job as a chairman's assistant and another two-year job as a fore she decided to use the further education qualifications she had gained.

"I spoke German and used

"I had contacted City and Guilds in the Seventies because I found it impossible to find people with good secretarial skills — especially shorthand," she says.

Their answer was to tell me to come and qualify as a teacher of the skills I was looking for. So I went on a training course twice a week



Ada Parr, rated world-class by her boss: being appreciated makes a big difference to a PA's attitude to work, she says

for two years." In 1939 she became a college lecturer for three years, teaching German. French, cierical procedure, secretarial studies and office administration.

She went on to be an office manager for three years before joining her present company last year. Now, she says, she is trying to ensure that she keeps her French up to scratch by using it consistently in her dealings with the Brussels office. Alongside this concen-trated career she found time to marry and has a daughter, now aged 23.

Along with her title goes a list of speaking engagements, including an appearance at next year's Crême de la Crême exhibition in London, and prizes such as a Caribbean holiday for two and a training course at The Industrial Society. She has decided to donate her Industrial Society course

to her company's Pals network "so that we can all benefit from

Ms Parr says that American colleagues have been surprised by her award, saying that there is no equivalent in America. So she is working with them to try to form a group in America to promote such an award.

Her advice to budding PAs is to get their basic skills up to such a high standard that they

never have to worry about them, and can feel free to get on with developing their confi-

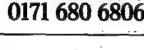
dence and career. You need to be willing to work hard and long hours, but you can get a terrific buzz from being part of things, and if you are appreciated it makes a big difference to your whole attitude to work.

"And don't forget," she says. "you work with a boss, not for

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عددا من الاصل

Joseph Connolly previews some curiosities on offer at all prices from Britain's specialist book dealers at this week's gathering in London

o many dedicated book lovers. Guy Fawkes Day means just one thing: the Chelsea book fair is two day's away, offering its customary selection of literary fireworks with not a damp squib among

More than 80 dealers will be unpacking a range of delights at this informal book fair. Prices peak at £20,000, though they start as low as £10.

At the top end of the market, there is an offering from London dealer Simon Finch that isn't a book at all, but one of just 30 pressings made of James Joyce's only recording of a section of Ulysses. It was recorded in France in 1924 for Sylvia Beach of the legendary Paris bookshop Shakespeare and Company. Only seven other copies are known to survive intact — hence the £20,000 tag.

A literary landmark from another age is offered by Henry Sotheran of Sackville Street: a folio two-volume first edition of Samuel Johnson's Dictionary of the English Language (1755). It is a very good copy, rebound in period style full calf and a highly desirable item at £8.750.

G & D Marrin and Sons the Folkestone dealer specialising in books on the First World War — was founded 50 years ago by the present owner's late father, George, himself a veteran of Ypres and the Somme. One of the most attractive items on offer is a

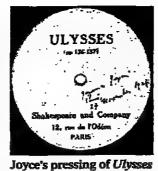


Poems (1920) in original cloth and with an introduction by Siegfried Sassoon (£425). A range of World War One

books includes a military map of northern Gallipoli, printed in Egypt in 1915, for £150. Even more fascinating is a military manual of the same date: Battalion Drill for £25. S. K. Biltcliffe is a particu-

larly interesting London dealer, specialising in 19th-century industry and life generally. He boasts a a huge range so let me select R. Baskervill's Illustrat-ed Catalogue of Fountain Designs (not dated, £200); the

lies in the 29 woodcuts that depict the extraordinary patterns made by the swirling of water in all sorts of corkscrew configurations. I was also attracted American publication of 1884 entitled Arsenic as a Domes tic Poison (E485), containing genuine examples of wallpa-



per and children's school writing paper — all of which used arsenic in their manufacture, with not so much as a "do not

A signed photo of Queen Victoria, priced £1,500

children's books, is also offering a very good selection. concentrating on fairy tales

Altogether different is a magnificent volume of 1773 entitled A Voyage to the South Seas in Majesty's Ship The Endeavour. This contains 27 fine engraved plates by Sydney Parkinson, recording the botany, and native chiefs encountered on Captain Cook's voyage: £4,950 from Bernard Shapero.

ophie Dupré has amassed an extraordinary collection of 250 items relating to the Windsors - originally intended to form a companion piece to Sotheby's now postponed sale of artefacts from the Duke and Duchess of Windsor's Bois de Boulogne residence. The range includes some superb photographs of the Duke as King, as well as signed pictures of both the Duke and

The range and quality at this year's fair is as good as ever. There is everything from the sublime to the downright quirky. An example of the latter could possibly be a pamphlet of 1946 available from Garwood & Voigt at just £18: Camp Cooking for Boy Scouts - not to be missed.

■ The Chelsna book fair is at Cheisea Old Town Hall, Kings Road, London SW3 on Friday November 7, 2pm-Spm and Sat-



An engraved plate by Sydney Parkinson from Captain Cook's 1773 South Seas expedition

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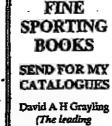
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# A pas de trois at Covent Garden?

Chris Smith has ignited the biggest arts row for years. The Culture Secretary's proposal, floated out of the blue on Monday, is that English National Opera abandons the

Coliseum and shares Covent Garden with the Royal Opera and Royal Ballet when that theatre reopens after its redevelopment. All three companies are in grave financial

difficulties. But is such a radical plan desirable, or even feasible? Rodney Milnes and Debra Craine, The Times's opera and dance critics, assess the implications, while Richard Morrison outlines the political risks

here are several mind-hoggling as-pects to Monday's announcement by Chris Smith. It is more than just ironic, it is blackly tragic that the spokesman for a political party retaining the word "Labour" in its name, the party of Jennie Lee under whose guidance the provision of arts and education for the people of the UK reached new heights, should be proposing the reduction of artistic activity in the nation's capital. Smith cites as excuse a crisis, a crisis caused by ten years and more of Arts Council laisser faire inactivity in the face of Treasury intransigence which the present Government is too wet

Smith says the nation can no longer afford two opera houses, which is hogwash: the nation could if the Government had any political will, or any vision beyond acquiring power and maintaining it by fawning on the tabloid media and blandly surrendering to the cultural values they promote. Paris has four opera houses, Berlin three, Munich two. Under new Labour's inspired leadership, is London to be reduced to the status

Make no mistake, what this is about is the disbandment of English National Opera. The very idea that the company and the values it upholds would survive when sharing a theatre — and an established audience — wholly unsuited to its activities is, again, laughable. If London cannot afford two opera companies, then the one to go is the Royal, recently taken over by a carpetbagger of all its ills (the Arts Council), playing to a tiny elite audience (80,000 tops) at prices that exclude all save the rich and the committed fans, and of no social relevance whatever.

The age-old, socially OK buzz-word "touring" is raised, but it is far cheaper to bring audiences to opera via the proper provision of matinees than it is to take opera on

tour. I am amazed that some one of Sir Richard Eyre's experience has agreed to become associated with all this nonsense and can only hope that after due consideration he at whichever civil servant dreamt it up.

There is no mention of one significant word in the press release - language. ENO has always performed in the language of the andience, some-thing that composers have taken for granted since operawas "invented" 400 years ago. And there is also little mention of management; would ENO's values be safe in the hands of any of the current Covent Garden bosses?

There has been too much gleeful anticipation of redundancies, of throwing in the bin hundreds of highly skilled craftsmen who over the past 50 years have led to London being recognised as one of the leading operatic centres in the world - and they started from virtually nothing. But that is the philistine UK all over: see

Chris Smith has been quoted as describing himself as "a realist". I can think of a number of other names, of which "pragmatist" is one of the more polite. He is certainly a procrastinator: shove the decision-making on to someone else and wait for six

Admittedly he has a prob-lem. The sensible provision of opera in the capital would involve one 2,000-sear house another of 1,200 for ENO. If he can only "afford" one, then the latter is the only option. But he is stuck with the irreversible lottery grant to the ROH, and has to put something in it. Except that he could turn it into a dance hall, a feat previously achieved by one Adolf Hitler.

RODNEY MILNES

s usual when the Royal Opera House is the subject of heated debate, the ballet barely gets a mention. In all the news coverage that followed Chris Smith's announcement, hardly a thought was spared for the poor old-Royal Ballet, Britain's premier dance company and resident at Covent Garden for half a century (longer, in fact, than the Royal Opera itself). Chris Smith's letter to Sir Richard Eyre, setting out the terms of the review, doesn't seem to take into account the effect of his proposals on the Royal Ballet. The Culture Secretary, like just about everyone else.

clearly sees this as an opera At first glance his plan, should it go ahead, is bad news for the Royal Ballet. Already struggling to achieve parity with the Royal Opera





### DANCE

within the Opera House organisation, the ballet company would now find itself sharing a house with not one but two opera companies. If it was difficult for the ballet to get its fair share before, it would be well nigh impossible under the Smith scenario.

Squeezed into third place by two rival opera companies, the ballet would inevitably find itself with fewer performances, reduced rehearsal time and a battle for limited resources at an overworked opera house. It wouldn't be long before serious artistic compromises would have to be made. Given that part of the reason for the Opera House's massive redevelopment is to accommodate more dance performances and more dance programmes - in other words to allow dance to realise its full potential in the new house — world knows, the old lady of St this would seem to be a Martin's Lane is a superlative

betrayal of all the promises made to the Royal Ballet. But look a little closer and another sequence of events presents itself, one in which the Royal Bailet could find itself king of a different castle. That castle is the Coliseum, current home of English National Opera. The Culture Secretary has suggested that once ENO moves out, the Coliseum could be sold or rented out

One can sympathise with his new Labour desire to save taxpayers' money, but is he really prepared to throw away this theatrical gem? For here is a golden opportunity to secure the future of large-scale dance in London: let the Royal Bailet move to the Coliseum. As everyone in the dance

sightlines and a beautiful large stage. The kind of classical extravaganzas offered by the Royal Ballet would look splendid on its stage (as the company will discover next July when it presents its summer season there). And, as Dance Umbrella proved earlier this year with its Mark Morris season, large-scale contemporary dance is emi-nently saleable at the 2,350-seat Coliseum.

While ENO and the Royal Opera grab the lion's share of Garden, the Royal Ballet could take its big productions to the Coliseum. It could share the house with English National Ballet - which already enjoys Christmas seasons there and would dearly love to expand its Coliseum presence - and there would still be room for visiting foreign companies.

companies performing in a Coliseum designated as a dance house, the provision for large-scale dance in the capital would, at long last, be secured.

There will be those resistant to the idea of taking the ballet out of Covent Garden and some will no doubt fight to keep it there. But if the Government really does foresee a future in which Covent Garden is London's only opera house, the only hope for dance is to find its own home.

If Sir Richard Eyre is going to take his brief seriously and he undoubtedly will - he must be prepared to fit dance into the equation. The provi-sion of large-scale dance in London is an issue which has been talked about for years. Here is a chance to turn all that talk into action.

DEBRA CRAINE taxpayers' money; and to

hris Smith badly needed to pull a rabbit out of the hat Perhaps this startling menage a trois at the Garden will be it. His first six

months as Culture Secretary have been undistinguished, to put it mildly. He was wrongfooted, and then just plain wrong, when he en-dorsed Mary Allen's hasty appointment to the Royal Op era House. He huffed and puffed to humiliatingly little effect over Camelot's "fat cat" directors. He watched helpless as the Millennium Dome was

removed from his portfolio. And all the while the managerial disarray and elitist ethos of Covent Garden - the country's most highly-subsidised arts institution mocked two of new Labour's most cherished commitments: to be prudent stewards of

### POLITICS

make the arts accessible to

ordinary people. So the timing of his announcement - just before he was grilled by Gerald Kaufman - had a whiff of political expediency to it. So did the decision to wrap the proposal in a "review" by the saintly Sir Richard Eyre. Indeed, some feel that Eyre would be one of the few personalities capable of holding together an "allembracing" Covent Garden.

Nevertheless, Smith's strategy is full of risks. Irrespective what conclusion Eyre reaches, the Culture Secretary has clearly signalled his views London's operatic and dance life. Now he must face the wrath of Covent Garden's rich benefactors, the unions (who will suspect, probably correctly, that many jobs could

be shed by two opera com-panies sharing the same house), and the ardent supporters of the companies and their very different performing and marketing styles.

There is one other intriguing dimension. What has been the role of the Arts Council this week? The answer is: it hasn't had one. The Arts Council has been completely bypassed by the Smith initiative. With a chairman on the way out, and no secretary-general at all, it has effectively been declared irrelevant to the biggest arts

debate for decades. That shatters the "arm's length principle", intended to deter politicians from meddling directly in the running of arts organisations. Whether it also sounds the death-knell for the Arts Council itself remains

RICHARD MORRISON

POP: Gutsy country-rock from a reformed Texan rabble-rouser; plus pummelling French electronics

# Blood, sweat and a few tears

There can be few artists currently drawing breath who have walked it and talked it like Steve Earle. A reformed heroin addict who has spent almost as much time behind bars as in them, he has so many former wives that Henry VIII must have been his marriage guidance counsellor.

But if Earle's life story sounds like every social worker's worst nightmare, his music is all the more potent for it. For one can almost taste the blood, sweat and tears shared by the characters in his songs.

More often than not they are outsiders, outlaws, outspoken. Theirs are lives that walk the high-tension line between self

destruction and redemption. Indeed, Earle himself seems to have negotiated that wire successfully. He is now apparently drink and drug-free and happily remarried, and in his spare time he is to be found lending his fervent to the campaign



to abolish capital punishment. He has also just released his finest album to date, El Corazon most of which was written while he was on subbatical in Ireland - and with this concert he kicked off an extensive European tour that reaches London at the end of the month.

Returning to the same venue he played last March, whence he paraded his expertise as a gritty. story telling troubadour in the tradition of his late friend and mentor Townes Van Zandt, this time the Texan-bred singer brought with him the Dukes, a fluid and highly accomplished bunch of musicians. Together they produced what turned out to be, in the end, a hugely satisfying evening of guisy country rock and

spine-tingling folk ballads that touched several stylistic bases, from Nashville country to Scattle grunge via Texan folk and even a smattering of bluegrass.

Admittedly it took a while for the band (Buddy Miller, guitar, Kelly Looney, bass, and new recruit Brady Blade, drums) really to get going, owing to evident opening night rustiness, combined with prolonged technical problems with guitar leads which should really have been sorted out during rehearsals and the

Indeed, the band's two roadies were conspicuous by their presence for much of the evening, and even seemed to revel in their

The two and a quarter hour set produced many highlights. New songs such as Christmas in Washington and Ft Worth Blues already sound like timeless classics, while the Byrdsian chimes of If. You Fall neathy slotted in with rancous live favourites like Copperhead Road and a rebel-rousing Johnny Come

But when the great Emmylou Harris stepped from the wings to duct on Goodbye, so too did the

NICK KELLY crowd, eliciting whoops and frantic waving as they boost the tempo.

ا هددا س الاصل

# **Crowd pleasers**

The American rock writer Greil Marcus has described Daft Punk as "the best pop group in the history of Paris - not that there's been much competition since Royer Collard and the Doctrinaires". Recently, though, the competition has intensified. The French dance scene has provided a feast of rivals, such as DJ Cam and I:Cube, Nonetheless, it is still Daft Punk who are having the greatest impact here, especial-

ly after the release this year of their debut album *Homework*. For their first UK tour, which kicked off at the Cambridge Com Exchange, they have recruited another member of the French new wave, Dimini from Paris, to act as supporting DJ. His session blends seamlessly with Daft Punk, making the division between DJ

and performer ever finer: so fine, in fact, that the Musicians Union has at last recognised DJs as The two young Parisians Guy-Manuel de Homen Christo and Thomas Bangaltar — do not

so much make music as play the

Daft Punk Cambridge

Their show is organised around ruthlessly pared-down rhythms, each built from scraps of noise. There are no melodies or voices, no songs, just pummelling beats and truncated riffs. Daft Punk's sound is pure electronics; there is little attempt to emulate traditional instruments. It honks and vheezes, screeches and fizzes.

The two performers stand alone in the centre of the vast stage, their faces cast in shadow. Around them are scattered a barrage of lighting effects, where bulbs flash and twitch restlessly. Further distraction comes from a twin screen backdrop onto which are projected images of breakdancers, of mock brand names and of swirling

This is not an event for those who want to not gently to wellcrafted songs, it is for those who want to dance to the music of

JOHN STREET

# Freedom chained

T i the iew moments of profound music-making, rewarding lis-L tening and genuine flair scat-tered through Butch Morris's ten-CD retrospective Testament are anything to go by, the odds are that not many of his seven UK appearances will contain these ingredients. During the past 20 years, Morris has abandoned a career as a major creative force in jazz in favour of pursuing his theory of "Conduction".

Essentially this involves using a vocabulary of formal gesture to direct ensemble improvisation, using no score or prearranged material, but simply relying on the improvisatory resources of his musicians and on his own ability to shape their performance with his baton. At the heart of this idea is a paradox - how could a performance be freely improvised if it is being conducted?

In Morris's Conduction No 84. given at the Oxford Contemporary Music Festival, his 22-piece ensemble contained a galaxy of Britain's best-known free players, but it seemed many of them were inhibited by this very paradox, the size of the ensemble suppressing the improvisatory ideas of its members. Only violinist Aleks Kolkowski and trumpeter Byron Wallen - who may have lost marks from his siony-faced colleagues for (a) mov-

Butch Monis - Oxford

ing about and (b) smiling - created lengthy enough and sufficiently shaped solo parts to emerge from the melee. Even soprano saxophonist Evan Parker, normally so resourceful on such occasions, seemed to resort to self-parody when Morris encouraged him to be

The concert became an exercise in texture. Since (apart from a handful of passages spurred by Morris's downbeats) the performance was largely arrhythmic, and since so little melodic content surfaced, it could hardly be other-

There were moments when Morris conjured some sublime shadings from his ensemble, especially in his handling of the strings, making use of Zoe Martlow's cello arpeggios and Philipp Wachsmann's laconic viola glissandi. But in more than 90 minutes of music, texture alone is insufficient to hold an audience's attention, and by the last piece a third of the crowd had voted with their feet.

ALYN SHIPTON

The incredible journey

ROMEO AND JULIET Ray Featon and Zue Waites play the lods in love. Short London run for Michael Attenborough's production before returning to Stational
Barbican (The Pil) Sale Street, EC2
(0171-638 8891) Opens tonight,
7 15pm Then Mon-Sal, 7 15pm; mats
Thur and Sal. 2pm, Until Nov 15

THE SLOW DRAG! Jazz musical by Carson Kreitzer, loosely based o story of Billy Tipton, a woman wi musical Liza Sedony joins Kim Crewell and Christopher Colquboun from Lisa Forrell's Freedom Calle (0171-369 1735). Opens tonight, 9pm Then Mon-Thur, 9pm, Fn and Sat, 7pm

LA MALADIE DE LA MORT. Rober Wilson's visually exquisite production of the Marguente Duras, play, with Michel the harguene outsines, we make the harguene outsines and dancer Lucande Child's in French with English surbites Part of the French Theatra Season Personal, Theatra Season Personal, Theatra Season Fortugal Street, oil Lungway WC2 (0171-494-5090).
Tonight Saf, 8pm.

CHILINGINIAN CHARTET THE its 25th armwersary with a rocital of Haydn's String Quanet in G followed by a world premiere of a new work from Robert Saxton, For the evening's second tondetssohn's Octet iarbican: S& Street, EC2 (0171-838 8891) Tonight, 7.30pm 🔕

ECHUBIANT CELEBRATION: The bantone Maitmas Goeme accompanie by Andreas Haefiger, pland, sings a choice selection of the Austrian composer's songs inspired by Goethe's poems. A number of Hugo

☐ ART' Ron Cook, Nigel Havers and Makelin Storry in this exceptionally meresting drama about friendship, unspoken resentment and an almost all-

white parking Wyndham's Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-399 1736) Tue Sat. 8pm; mals Wed. 3pm, Saj and Sun. 5pm. THE BOYS IN THE ILUND, Man Crowley's ground-breaking gay play from 1968 now something of a period piece with its 'gay means winty but wretched' message. Transfer from the King's Head, Islangton.
Aldwych. The Aldwych. WC2 (0171-416 6003) Already previewing. Opens Oct 29, 7pm Then Men-Sal, 8pm, mata Thur and Sat, 3pm.

II A DIBLICATE BALLINGE Bloom All A DELICATE BALANCE: Elean Allons haurlangly chiling in welcome reveal of Albee's play about marriage, parenthood and nogitoouriness Magge Smith plays the drunk bater. Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8300), Mon-Sat, Bpm; mata Wed and Sat, Jpm. (a)

AN IDEAL HUSSAND, RIDIN OF CI AN IDEAL HUSSIAND, Hahrn of Perer Helf's anyoyabig production, brimful of deceptions, Slauming Martin Shaw and Simon Ward, and Kate O Mura as the unified enublemolule Olivina, as the unified enublemolule Olivina, Shaftesbury Ave, W1 (0171-494 5065) Mon-Saz, 7 45pm, mais Thur-lipm and Sat, 4pm,

THE INVENTION OF LOVE Tom Stoppard's new play with John Wood es the aldesty A. E. Housman, careful to

NEW RELEASES

AN AMERICAN WEREWOLF IM

erican sautent wire talls for the irms of Julie Delpy's werewolf edge, Anthony Walter

films in London and (where adicated with the symbol • )

CINEMA GUIDE

Odeone: Kensington (0181-315 4214)
Merble Arch (0181-315 4216) Swiss
Cottage (0181-315 4220) Piaza (0 SULLAS PER SIGNED AND GROW 8990) UCI White SautLA'S Jackers of Greenlands (18): Danish scientist of Greenlands descent shifts out a murder mystery Mediannoted treatment of interesting material. With Julie O'mond, Gabris Byrns, Richard Herris Director, Bits 889990) Virgin Trocadero (5) (0131-970 6015) Werner (5) (0171-437 4343) POOLS RUSH IN (12) Strait-lace I guy can't cope with mamage to a hery Masscan-American, Tiresome rome nito comedy with Malthew Perry and Salma ABC Shatasbury Av (0171-836 6279) Heyel, Drector, Andy Tonnert. Virgin Trocedors (5) (0181-970 6015)

CURRENT

THE FIRL MONTY (19)

THE FILL MONTY (18)

Unemployed steelworkers amp for cash.
Bouncy Bresh comedy, with Robert
Carryle, Tom Wilkinson, Mark Addy.
ABGs. Beater Street (017) 935 9772;
Shaffesbury Avenue (017) 436 6279)
Totarsheen Cours Finand (017) 436
6148; Odeons: Kensington (018) -315
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(0990 888990; Ribay (017) -737 2121)
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Haymarket (017) -839 1327)

A LIFE LESS OFFICIATY (15),
Janetor and American horess trially be

in lave. Odd mix of cornedy. fantaca

L.A. CONFIDENTIAL (18): Smastering charms about compliant in L.A.in the early 1850s, with Kevin Spacity, Russell Crowe, Kim Besinger, Guy Pearor and Denny Devitro Director, Curtan Hanson. Barbisan (§) (0171-638 8891).
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 2020). Martins Hill Company (0171-498 2020). McClapham Picture House (0171-498 2020). McClapham Picture House (0171-498 2020). Claphem Picture House (0171-498 3231 Nothing Hill Coronat & (0171-727-6705) Odeohs: Camden Town (0181-375-4255) Kensington (0181-315 4214) Marbie Arch (0131-315-4216) Saries Cottage (0181-315-420) Hitzy (0171-737-2121) Screen/Hill & (0171-435-2366) UCI Wisheleys & (0990 B82990) Virgins: Fulhem Road (0171-372-2836) Hammarket (0171-439-1527) 379 2636) Haymerket (0171-839 1527) Warner & (0171-437 4343)

SMALLTIME (18): Encodert como

TODAY'S CHOICE A daily guide to arts

el la comulate a communi la

Schubert's lyncel style

ELSEWHERE

and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargis

opera ensemble Opera Circus arrive here for two nights with its immedia here for the regres were as intrinsience bland of physical clowning and visual and aural beauty. The conversity's new preduction, Cast Mann's Tale, is based on Times literary editor Erica Wagyrei's short story. The Groot Leonardo and is set to music by Alesdein Naciston.

Traverses, Cambridge Street (0131-228 1404). Tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm. Wolf's dramatic settings of Môrike are SE1 (0171-960 4242) Tonight, 8pm (5)

surrounding the magne. Grand Theatre, Church Street (01253 29372) Tonght, 8pm (5)

EDINFLIRGH: The accidented pop

GLASGOW: Only British dates for BLACKYOOL: First Small performance for Severa for a Secret performance to Severa for a Secret perspect that the several several temperature for the Several the Several Several several the Company ed by the notorious Scansin Company La Fura dels Baus.
Tramwey, Albert Drive, Glasgow
(0141-227 5511) Tonight-Sat, 8pm. (5) HULL: Opera North's augum tour

stops here with performances of Verol's Auda tonight and Saturday, Martinu's Judietta tomorrow and Mozari's Cosi fan New Theatre, Kingston Square (01482 226655) Performances at 7.15pm.

LONDON GALLERIES Anthony d'Offay: Roy Lichtenstein
(0171-499 4100) ... Barbican: Don
McCuttin (0171-838 8891) ... Brunnet:
The European Expenence of the Middle
East in European books and
Instanceicura; (0171-837 2385 ext
2733) ... Design Morseum: A tour of
broycle design history (0171-378
8055) ... European Academy &
Accederatin (ballane) Joseta de Obdos
of Portugal (0171-255 0005)
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1997 (0171-960 4242) ... Madionale

1997 (0171-960 4242) National Holbern's Ambassadors (0171-747-7885) Nextonal Portrait: Sr Her Raeburn (0171-306 0055) . Royal College of Art: Artists and Anatomy (0171-500 4444) . Tata. The Turn Prize Exhibition (0171-8)7 8000)

THEATRE GUIDE

Schubert is celebrated at

CI KAT AND THE KINGS Euroment musical set in Cape Town as rock in roll bussts over South Alnon. A great evering out. Tricycle Theatre, Kilburn High Road. NW6 (0171-328 1000), Mon-Set, Spm; mats Wed (Nov 6), 2pm and Set, 4pm. A LETTER OF RESIGNATION CI A LITTER OF RESIGNATION.

Cheard Fox and Clare Higgins play
Hardid Macmilian amid Lady Dorothy in
Hardi Wintermore's play about the effects
of the Profumi scandal
(Cosnedy Theeks, Parton Street, SW1
(0171-359 1731) Mon-Set, 7 45pm;
mats Wed, 3pm and 3at, 4pm

Else Enjoyes You rolow?: Jean Fergusson writes and sters in this life story of the celebrated corner Hyde Balter, by all accounts a furnry but efficiell werner Yaudeville Theetire, The Strand, WC2 [31 7] 439 9997, Mon-Sart Rommer 7 Mand and Sar Strand Sar Strand Resember 7 (B1 71 -630 9987), Mon-Set, Norr, mets Wed and Set, 3pm. Until December 7. STEPPING OUT Musical version of

TALES MY LOVER TOLD WE NO years struggling to stay friends Kling's Head, Upper Street, N1 (0171-

□ WOYZECK: Sarah Kane's oncore LONG RUNNERS

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I Blood Brothers Proses (0171-39)
1733) . El Cats. New London (0171-405 0072) ... I Martis Glassre.
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MA VIE EN AGSE (12) Emborant.

generous and system manch comings shout a seven year-old boy's determination to be a gal. ABC Swiss Centre (0171-439 4470) Chapter Picture House (0171-458 3323) Cutzon Maytair (0171-359 1720) Richmond (0181-332 0030)

• THE PEACEMAKER (15): Georg

warheads Muddled action blockbul ASCC Elab St. (0)17-9 is 9772; Tetlantium Ct Rd (0)171-536 s1-9; Empire B; (099) 882990; Generald (0)81-235 3005) Odeona: Kensing (0)81-335 4214) Merbie Arch (0)8; 15-4316 Center Chr. (1)

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WILDE (15) Stophen Fry as Oscar Wilder line and bucking though the Mit

is more timed than you might expect Greenwich (0181-235-3005) Odeca

Cottage (0181-315 4220) Warmer & (0171-437 4343)

ss Cig (0181-315 4230)

\*Robertson and her hopeful hoolers Albery, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (017-359 1730) Mon-Sat, Spirit, mate

musical cornedy written and directed by Chris Burgess, music by Sereh Travis, about three women in their early middle

NATING FON CODOT: Pass Hall, who directed the British premiers in 1955, directs Alan Howard and Blan Kingsley in a newed of Beckett Old Vic. Waterloo Road, SE1 (0171-928 7616) Tonight. 7.30pm. in rep Li worzacci. Saran kais şi pipung production ol Büchmer's iraşedy el a common men. Riveting performencies by Michael Shannon and Kala Ashfeld. Gaste Theatire, Prince Albert Pub, 11 Pembridge Road, Will (0171-223 0708) Mon-Sat, 7,30pm. Lindi November 22.

Making merrier fter its decidedly down-The Merry Widow beat opening but with 885 614(I) Berblow (() (0171-635 8891) Gate (() (0171-727 4043) Greenwich (0181-235 3005) Odeone

f the word is not too strong. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

was obsessed with The Pilgrim's

Progress all his life. He first wrote

incidental music for a dramatisation in

1906; the "work-in-progress" Shep-

herds of the Delectable Mountains followed in 1922; more music for a BBC

radio dramatisation came in 1942. When the complete opera was per-

formed at Covent Garden in 1951 it was

on the whole scurvily received, which

Nearly 50 years on, you can see why.

One result of VW's lifelong concern was that the score could have been

composed at almost any time this

century, if not before. With its harmonies seldom straying beyond the world of Hymns ASM, its unashamed,

wholesome religiosity and warm, un-

questioning bed of choral and orches-

tral triumphalism, it must have sounded antediluvian to ears growing

accustomed to Britten (Billy Budd was premiered the same year), let alone to whatever was going on in Darmstadt. One can well imagine modernists

sniggering behind their hands at this

But with the passing of time such

out-of-synch disparity matters less. The sheer fervour of the writing and its

profoundly held conviction sweep all

before it, certainly through the short first two acts. Its problems as an opera

- and Ernest Newman thought it belonged in a cathedral rather than an opera house — stem from a certain lack

of dramatic conflict. Pilgrim doesn't have to do a lot off his own bat: when

he is in trouble, there is always

someone to see him through, be it an

encouraging Watchful or the consoling Branch-Bearer and Cup-Bearer, and

there's a Key of Promise to get him out

of jail. Even threats of death carry little

weight, since his whole journey is to the

Such quibbles carried equally little weight during Monday's semi-staged

performance by the Royal Opera,

which was simply superb. Richard

Hickox conducted with as much pas-

sion and devotion as if this were some

"cowpat" music.

hereafter.

Pilgrim's Progress

Barbican Half

must have wounded the composer.

an alternate cast now firmly in place, the Royal Opera's Merry Widow has begun to pick up a little. Alas, not so the audience: at a nerformance late last week when one might at least have expected Lesley Garrett's Valencienne to have been packing them in, there were rows of empty seats in what felt like a ghost town but was in fact the Shaftesbury The-SETE.

Putting aside, if possible, the unbelievably drab production. there is now a show to be enjoyed here. Of course, Lehár's masterpiece really needs a bit of glitz, and in a West End run of 30 performances intended to draw people in. the set is the wrong place to be making economies. But the production has settled down musically, with Dierfried Bernet now conducting with greater flexibility and real Viennese feeling, and most of the cast now getting Jeremy Sams's sly translation across

Shaftesbury

divine conflation of Parsifal and the

Verdi Requiem, and the orchestral

sound alone drew you unprotesting into sharing VW's certainties. Joseph

Ward's staging — a matter of platforms (Michael Holt) and light (John B. Read)

drama there is, probably clearer than

in any conventional production.

gave a clear impression of what

Gerald Finley's performance of the

Lyuba Kazarnovskaya is strong casting in the thie role. Her sonrano has a sught edi and top notes are not her speciality, but she sings a seductive VIIja and you can believe in her as the spirited farmer's daughter made good. There is erotic charge in her relationship with Dale Duesing's Danilo, who makes up for a rather dry baritone with his comic timing, turning

in a real performance. Garrett's Valencienne (her Royal Opera stage debut) has voice and personality: rhough she occasionally spoils things by overacting, she relishes every double entendre and makes a cheeky grisene. Donaid Maxwell is excellent as the buffoonish Baron Zeta, and Vicente Ombuena's awkward Camille apart, this cast provides a good evening's entertainment.

JOHN ALLISON | piano sounds as if he had

IF, AS Barry Humphries observed, you can always pick out classical music because it "doesn't have words and goes on for a considerable length of time", he would have been hard put to classify this delightful evening.

Though there were pieces which drew their inspiration from the music of far-flin Pacific cultures, the sound worlds never really went native. Canadian composer David Duke's ... Though Now We Sleep ... eloquent utterances from the solo cello improvising on Kwakiuti song fragments. with recordings of the chariting and drums. The cellist Steven Isserlis breathed life into the whispering microtonal harmonics and multistopped pizzicati with the lightest touch. But the weird nasal voices remained apart,

only reach towards a Kodalylike exoticism. The critic and composer James Heime Sutcliffe was born in China and studied in Australia, New York, Zurich, Bayreuth and Cologne, but his Avatar (1994) for cello and

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24ss 420 0000 (no big lee THE PETER HALL COMPA WAITING FOR GOODT

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7,20pm, Last & Perfor Trible
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Perfor WASTE by Harray Cimental
Birden 13 Nov 7 30pm, Last &
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BEST MUSICAL

Olyent Carro Augusto

and Duke's gestures could

Sounds of the South

Religious fervour: Pamela Helen Stephen (Madam Bubble), Gerald Finley (Pilgrim), Rebecca Evans (Madam Wanton)

title role was beyond all praise, sung with beautifully firm tone and acted

without a hint of embarrassment.

There were equally vivid performances

from Gidon Saks (Apollyon, Hate-

Good et al), and from Anne-Marie

Owens and Richard Coxon as the By-

Ends in the quirkily comic scene much

criticised at the time, but a very

necessary leavening after the Delecta-

RECITAL Wignore Hall never left the Paris of Les Six.

He spins a thread of easy modal fluency, beautifully executed here by Isserlis and the pianist Susan Tomes, who also gave a graceful reading of David Fanshawe's The Awakening. Again, the raw panpipes and drums of Solomon Islanders seemed to bear little relation to Fanshawe's dreamy, diatonic Carl Vine's inventive Inner

World for solo cello and tape had a true "Pacific" taste. however, with its mixture of high-tech, West Coast rhythmic drive and outlandish harmonic world, whose voca-

RODNEY MILNES bulary derives from the sounds of the cello itself, computer-altered and interwo-

ble Shepherds (the weakest part of the

score, oddly enough). Jeremy White

(Evangelist), Roderick Williams

Watchful) and Gwynne Howell (Bun-

yan) performed their pious duties with

tact, and the whole company went for Vanity Fair hammer and tongs. VW

won, hands down:

ven with the playing of another cellist, David Pereira. Barry Humphries joined in for Grant Belgarian's Of Fa-

bles, Foibles and Fancies, written for Gregor Piatigorsky, whom he appointed while music dean of the Univ ersity of Southern California. Isseries caught the quirky aplomb.

Then came Ross Edwards and Barry Humphries's Cries of Australia, commissioned for the occasion. It was in the guise of the "late" Sandy Stone that Humphries arrived for this disingenuous monologue on his wife Beryl and her table mats. Isserlis was cast as the refugee next door, driving poor Beryl to distraction with his cello practice (an irony not lost on a Wigmore audience). The compromise - Beryl's Chopsticks miraculously turned into a perfectly reasonable accompaniment to the famous melody of Schubert's E flat Piano Trio - was quite a coup de grâce.

HELEN WALLACE

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1



# Most original director of the century?

As London experiences another of Robert Wilson's forays into the challenging - and confusing - Andy Lavender talks to him

ontemplating Robert Wil-son requires a range of facial movements. Pirst, the eyes should widen at the evidence of this polymath's activities. Wilson has been making influential artworks - theatre and opera stagings, installations, sculp-tures, furniture and paintings— since the late 1960s. He is best known for his visually striking stage productions, which he designs, lights and directs himself. According to John Rockwell, the director of New York's Lincoln Centre Festival, he is "the most original director of this century". This is faint praise when set against the enthusiasm of a number of European arts figures, who see Wilson as the unique exponent of spectacular escapism

for the intelligentsia. Secondly, the chin drops in awe at the list of collaborators with whom Wilson has worked. Philip Glass, David Byrne, Heiner Müller, Lou Reed, Jessye Norman, William Burroughs, Tom Waits, Laurie Anderson ... you could hardly hope to assemble a more cultish collection.

Then comes the respectful purs ing of the lips at the detail which Wilson lavishes on his shows. His recent one-man version of Hamlet. for instance, contained more than 300 lighting cues. "I've worked on shows with Bob where he's had a follow-spot on a performer's finger," says one of his stage managers.

Compare this with the scale of KA MOUNTAIN, an event staged on a mountain in Iran in 1972 that lasted for seven days and featured 500 actors. This suggests the spirit of Wilson's work: magnificent folly combined with the rigorous attentions of the purist.

Finally, two raised eyebrows. One signals the reserve with which some critics approach Wilson's work, finding its formalism too remote, trivial or empty (in some instances, all three). The other indicates the rather eccentric behaviour of the man himself, who conforms to a range of stereotypes concerning the surised artistntus. There is the instance when the novelist Edmund White flew from Paris to New York to interview Wilson in his apartment, only to be given a guided tour and not allowed to ask questions of his own. Or the story about Wilson walking out of a hairdresser's salon two hours into a hair coloration, only to return the next day demanding that the job be

So it was no small satisfaction to discover myself, after several false starts, in conversation with Wilson about his production of La Maladie de la Mort, which opens in London tonight as part of the French Theatre Season. The show is a version of Marguerite Duras's novel about a man who hires a woman, perhaps in a last attempt at feeling. In

> 6 Wilson's methods involve the most open mind and the most steely grip 9

Wilson's hands Duras's story has become a chamber piece set in an abstract room which opens on to some sort of seascape. As the show progresses, the "outside" becomes more evident, until in one scene the space is reversed and the characters are in the open - a characteristic visual turn.

Wilson's methods of making theatre involve a strange marriage between the kind of free-association favoured by the surrealists and a fierce formalist discipline. On the one hand the most open mind, on the other the most steely grip. What really makes things different is that Wilson's theatrical solutions often have little to do with the actual work

start by thinking about a structure," he says. "I usually find for myself some kind of dia outline. With La Maladie I thought of the number seven, as an even another three points, around a central point. So the piece had a centre. This is not necessarily in the text. It's something I imposed along the way. And it's not necessary than the audience knows what that something is about. I thought of the number seven because Marguerite once told me that the piece takes place over the course of a week, so

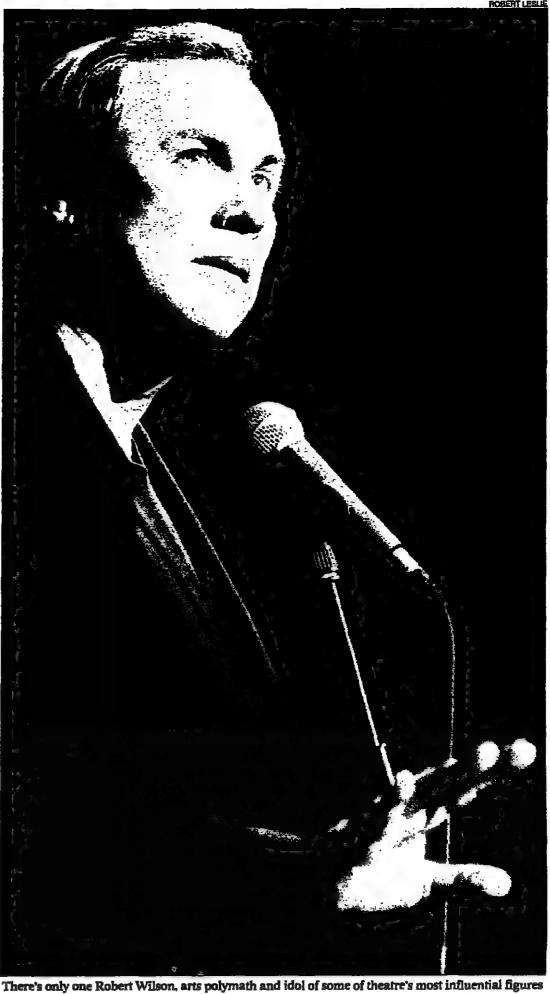
it's seven days. A mere step from this, you can imagine, to a show in seven sections revolving around a scene where the balance shifts from one side of the stage to the other. If it all sounds dauntingly schematic, consider the response of the critic Marc Robinson, who attended the premiere in Berlin five years ago. The production, he suggested, is "attentive to matters of the heart and spirit, with an intensity that makes for emotionally rich performance".

The show has been recast since then. Now it features the celebrated French actor Michel Piccoli and the dancer Lucinda Childs, a longstand-ing Wilson collaborator. Wilson says the piece has changed as a result, and enthuses about the obvious differences between his two performers as if this somehow enhances Duras's themes of dependence and loneliness.

"Michel Piccoli by nature is very simple in his appearance," Wilson says. "His strength is in his restraint. He's a very modest man. Even though what he's doing on stage is what you'd call 'acting', it's very natural. Lucinda, on the other hand, is very artificial. Her movements are not the kind of movements that you would see on the street. They're made for the stage."

Wilson's work itself delights in its own artifice, so it is no surprise to find him teaming up with Duras. "Marguerite's works are very formal," says Wilson, "but in a formal theatre, believe it or not, if it's done well there's very deep emotion. It's not like Broadway.

● La Maladie de la Mort is at Sadiers Wells at the Peacock Theatre (0171-314 8800) until Saturday, sponsored by



# rows

THREE high-school boys in Vancouver, wildly drunk, rape a nameless girl. One of them goes overboard and uses a screwdriver. They wake up with three hangovers, one corpse, and no idea which of them killed her.

Robert William Sherwood's gripping play starts 15 years after the students have buried the truth and gone their separate ways. One of the trio, Peter, is seeking absolution. He has discovered God, told his Saskatchewan girlfriend the story, and has hitched back to Vancouver to get Gordon and David to repent. It is here that Sherwood's play moves beyond its sensational material to a series of delicately crafted encounters that have the sort of mythic quality of a big screen showdown.

With the evidence rotted away, Peter's only lever is the truth. But his memory of the

> Absolution BAC, SW11

truth is starkly different to that of Gordon and David. Time has also played tricks with their memory of each other. David, the high-school achiever, has sunk into an anonymous job as a proof-reader. while Gordon has grown into an aggressive, womanising

James Merrells manages to make the caricaturable excesses of Gordon into his strengths, exploding with palpable venom at Peter's insistence on some collective moral responsibility. James Holmes puts in a fantastically convincing performance as the longhaired Peter, whose every night is haunted by the horror of the victim's face and whose salvation is painfully unrav-elled by David's dry logic. The word was never made flesh," says Timothy Deenihan's inscrutable David. "Not only are you stupid enough to believe it, you're stupid enough to believe it in translation."

What Sherwood makes flesh is that truth with no evidence is only words. Not since Brad Fraser's Unidentified Human Remains and The True Nature of Love has a Canadian play so graphically captured that edgy dislocation between human waste and

> **JAMES** CHRISTOPHER

**CONCERTS:** Orchestral strength and solo inspiration from North America

# A little goes a very long way

hitman-like, the or-chestras of the United States sing America with a great tongue. Many have paraded through London this year, each one a great multinational but with an individual voice that remains vivid - and none more so than the quietly civilised and civilising Indianapolis Symphony, which visited London as the grand finale to

its third European tour.
At just 87 strong, the ISO can function as both chamber ensemble and full-grown symphony orchestra. Its Festival Hall programme of Stravinsky, Mozart and Tchaikovsky epitomised the classically grounded style of the supple language, with its many European inflections, that it has learnt to speak so eloquently in the past decade under the artistic directorship of Raymond Leppard.

The orchestra's first and last notes drew attention to the elegant string textures spun by a hand with a fine quartet of principals at its heart. The encore - the orchestral version of the slow movement of Tchaikovsky's First String

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feature, like Blast Theory

and Reckless, fir my notion

of doing art for the sake of

doing it, not for the money."

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choice. It signed and sealed the quality of the ensemble playing heard at the very start, in the opening bars of Stravinsky's Divertimento from The Fairy's Kiss.

This was the work in which Stravinsky paid warm, if oblique, homage to Tchaikov-sky. His skill, and that of Leppard and the ISO in recreation, was to assimilate Tchaikovsky's themes in such a way that the ear is left with a sense of something fugitive, an elusive remembrance of things past woven inextricably into a new, living present

This tugging of past and present is very much at the heart of Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony. Its tension pulses through the slow movement's song, and the cellos' response the oboe's bittersweet canzona was transformed cogently by Leppard into a continuing momentum of new affirmation.

After a hard-working Scher-

introduced him to drama at

the Newcastle Playhouse

when he was about 13.

"Right from the first play I

saw, The Merchant of Ven-

Design for a living: After a

degree in theatre design at

Nottingham Polytechnic, he

produced sets and costumes

for, among others, the

Birmingham-based African

People's Theatre and the

London Contemporary

Why did he change direc-tion? "Ruth McKenzie, who

was then executive director

of the Nortingham Play-

house, said 'Andrew, you're

not a very good designer',

and suggested I become a

Dance Theatre.

ice, I was really captured."

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

ANDREW CHETTY

the massed pizzicato could really be voiced, the finale, with its sure pacing and closefocus articulation, was an exultant vindication of the

concentration and clarity. The Stravinsky and Tchaikovsky framed Stephen Kovacevich's performance of

certo, K491. This was the cue for the ISO's woodwind to come into its own. In a beautifully enunciated if somewhat austere performance, the sharply individual voices proentire performance's powerful vided character and diversion just where they were needed.

HILARY FINCH

# Spirit and Polish

MUSIC may be a universal language, but with two infrequently played Polish works leatured in Monday's BBC Symphony Orchestra concert alongside Tchaikovsky's Sixth Symphony, it made good sense to have a Polish conductor on the podium. Stanislaw Skrowaczewski, an old pro in the best sense, undoubtedly brought a feeling of authenticity to the proceedings.

Even so, it was the Canadian Chantal Juillet's performance in Szymanowski's Concerto No 2 that most memorable. With smallish but sweet tone, she turned the opening into

notes positively danced.

ragged, but then there was compensation in its exciting swagger. Skrowaczewski <u>like Allegro con grazia</u> had a heavier tread than usual. good preparation for the un-

BBC SO/ Skrowaczewski Festival Flat

an outpouring of endless melody, and under her fingers the music took flight. Just occasionally, in moments where the conductor seemed reluctant to let it flow, the orchestra sounded earthbound, but in the second, folk-inspired section of this unbroken score the

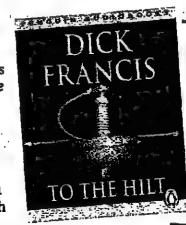
The conductor brought a similar understanding to Penderecki's bleak Sinfonletta for Strings. If anything was lacking here it was the fault of the music itself, since although the work is concise and well crafted, it inhabits a single emotional plain that suggests Shostakovich without that composer's characteristic depth.

The orchestra sounded at its best in the Pathétique, capturing the autumnal glow of the music. The wind solos had real warmth. Only the scherzo-march was a little shaped a distinctive performance, particularly in an unsettling first movement marked by fluid tempos and volatile climaxes. The waltzbearable intensity of the finale. As always in any worthwhile performance of this ambiguous work, one was left wondering whether Tchaikovsky really did intend

it as his own Requiem. JOHN ALLISON AN EXCLUSIVE READER OFFER --- THE SETTIMES

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CHANGING TIMES

Theatre was his first love: trainee producer. I haven't He grew up in Whickham, near Gateshead. His parents regretted it."

DANIEL ROSENTHAL ا صحدًا من الاصل

Best moment? A Saturday

during NOW ninety 5, "We

had about 2,500 people, from

small kids to pensioners.

queueing up to watch Blast

Theory perform a piece of

experimental theatre in a 30ft-square black box. It was

great to see such a wide cross-section of people trans-

fixed by something they'd

never have gone to see

otherwise."

Queen's Bench Division

Law Report

November 5 1997

# Councils can charge for care

Regina v Powya County Council, Exparte Hambidge, Secretary of State for Health, intervener

Before Mr Justice Popplewell Judgment October 7 A local authority was empowered to charge the recipient of care for services provided under the Chronically Sick and Disabled Act

Mr Justice Popplewell so held in the Queen's Bench Division in dismissing the application of Jenny Hambidge for judicial re-view of the decision of Powys County Carinell to phance here for County Council to charge her for pertain services provided under section 2 of the 1970 Act Section 17 of the Health and

icial Services and Social Security Adjudications Act 1983 provides: (i) ... an authority providing a service to which this section ap-plies may recover such charge (if

Regina v Hackney London

Borough Council Ex parte

Regina v Merton LBC, Ex

Regina v Same, Ex parte

Regina v Ealing LBC, Ex

A local authority which brought proceedings to enforce the pay-

ment of council tax by asylun

seckers who had no means of

paying was entitled to do so, and

Mr Justice Kay so held in a reserved judgment in the Queen's Bench Division when dismissing applications by four asylum seek-ers for judicial review of the

decisions of the respondent local

authorities to bring proceedings against each of them for non-

payment of council tax by seeking liability orders.

Mr Stephen Knuffer for the

MR JUSTICE KAY said that all

the applicants were in the United

Kingdom pending their appeals

against refusal of asylum and were

not entitled to income support or

tion and Enforcement) Regulations (SI 1992 No 613) gave the local

proceed at each stage of the enforcement process and the

authorities had begun that process by seeking liability orders.

NORTH OF THE

THAMES

The Council Tax (Administra-

council tax benefit.

applicants; Miss Mary Cook for Merton: Mr Ranjit Bhose Ealing and Hackney.

was not acting unreasonably.

parte Inparaja

Before Mr Justice Kay

[Jadgment July 31]

Paropathpilli

parte Jehan

Sueing over unpaid

council tax

fiy) for it as they consider

"(2) This section applies to services provided under the following enactments - section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948. . . Section 29 of the National Assis-

tance Act 1948 provides: "(1) A local authority may ... make arrange-ments for promoting the welfare of persons to whom this section applies, that is to say persons aged eighteen or over who are blind, deaf or dumb, or who suffer from mental disorder ... and other persons aged eighteen or over who are substantially and permanently hardicatoned ...

handicapped. ... Section 2 of the Chronically Sick (I) Where a local authority having functions under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948 are satisfied ... that it is necessary in order to meet the needs of that person, for that authority to make

Mr Knafler submitted that the

local authorities had acted ultra

vires section 11(2) of the Asylum

and Immigration Act 1996 and

notice of appeal, and which, he contended, must envisage that no enforcement action be taken mean-

while. The proceedings were also said to be ultra vires the 1992

regulations because they had not

within the contemplation of the regulations: those who had the

means to pay.

His Lordship rejected those submissions. If Parliament had intended that there be no
enforcement against asylum seek-

ers in those circumstances, it could

have included such a provision in

the Act, which could not be read

Nor could it be said that it was

unreasonable to seek a liability order in the circumstances. Even

hough the applicants might have

been unable to pay, the order enabled the precise liability to be

established at an early stage.
Further, it would not be un-

continue the enforcement process and seek distress or a committal

order against the applicants. Considerations such as the

desirability of a uniform approach

to council tax payers could reason-

ably outweigh the arguments pitted against enforcement.

Solicitors: Ms Angela Jackson,

Hackney. Clore & Co and Raja & Co; Ms Jane Ramsey, Merton; Mr Richard Polson, Ealing and Mr Christopher R. Hinde, Hackney.

isonable for a local authority to

into it by implication.

been brought against individu

arrangements for all or any of the following matters [provisions for assistance with home help, outings, holidays, adapted facilities, etc) then . . . it shall be the duty of that authority to make those arrangements in exercise of their

Mr Richard Gordon, OC and Mr Stephen Cragg for the ap-plicant Mr Robin Barratt, QC and Mr Clive Lewis for the county council; Mr Steven Kovass for the Secretary of State for Health. MR JUSTICE POPPLEWELL

said that was trite law that if a charge was to be made by a public body there had to be clear sta wording to that effect. It was the contempon of the local authority and the secretary of state

powered by section 17 of the 1983 Act to charge for the services provided.

charge for services provided under section 29. When providing wel fare services under section 2 of the 1970 Act the local authority was exercising its functions under sec It was not providing services under section 2: it was making arrangements under the 1948 Act for the provision of the services.

while section 17 did not refer

expressly to section 2 of the 1970

Act the services described in sec-

tion 2 were provided under section

29 of the 1948 Act and were therefore covered by section 17(2).

His Lordship agreed that section 17 entitled the local authority to

charge Solicitors: Thorpes, Hereford Mr Roger Eagle, (kandrinded Wells; Solicitor, Department of

### Power to search mental patients

Regina v Broadmoor Special Hospital Authority and Another, Ex parte 8 and Others regulations made thereunder, which entitled a person gramed asylum on appeal to council tax benefit backdated to the date of

Before Mr Dustine Posts [Judgment October 15]

All hospitals admitting patients under the Mental Health Act 1983 had the power to search those patients without consent. Whether a particular hospital's

search policy was lawful was a question of Wednesbury reasonableness (1948) 1 KB 223). Mr Justice Potts so held in the Queen's Bench Division in a reserved judgment when dismiss-ing the applications of five ap-plicants detained under the 1983 Act for judicial review of the policy of Broadmoor Special Hospital Authority, implemented on July 1, 1997 to conduct random and

routine searches on patients detained under the Act. Mr Richard Gordon, QC and Mr Paul Bowen for the applicants: Mr Edward Fitzgerald, QC and Mr Oliver Thorold for the hospital authority: Mr Kenneth Parker, QC and Mr Pushpinder Saini for the Secretary of State for Health.

MR JUSTICE POTTS said that the applicants sought judicial re-view of the policy of Broadmoor Special Hospital Authority to conduct random and routine searches. without consent, on patients de-

All parties agreed that such patients retained all civil rights which were not taken away es-

pressly or by implication: see Raymond v Honey (1983) I.AC I).
His Lordship rejected the submission that section 137(2) of the

Act expressly conferred on the hospital authority the powers of a constable, including powers of

Section 137(2) referred to powers to detain a person outside hospital and was not apt to cover the regime in a hospital once a patient had been conveyed there. Whether an implied power ex-isted depended upon whether there was a self-evident or pressing

need for such a power: R v
Secretary of State for the Home
Department, Ex parte. Leach
(1994) QB 1983.
His Lordship found that the
power to detain for medical treat-

ment conferred by the Act included a power to exercise control and discipline (R v Bracknell Justices, Ex parte Griffiths (1976) AC 314, 335) which included a duty to maintain a safe and therapeutic

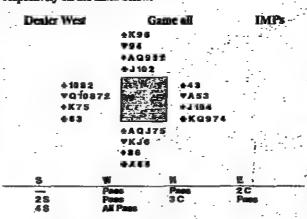
A general power to search patients was necessarily implied as a part of that duty. A power to search in order to prevent escape was also implicit in the power to All hosnitals admitting patients under the Act had the general

power to search patien whether a policy of random and routine search was Wednesbury reasonable depended on the circumstances of the hospital Although the policy was reasonable for Broadmoor, a special hospital, it would not necessarily

containing less dangerous patients. Solicitors: Scott-Moncrieff Harbour & Sinclair; Reid Minty & Co; Solicitor, Department of Health. b. New Year feast c. Goat biltong



The Russian team which lost in the semi-final of the world junion teams featured one of the strongest pairs ever to play in a junior event. Petrounine and Khiouppenen are first and sixth in their country's open national ranking list; they were West and East respectively on the hand below.



Khiouppenen's Two Club opening showed a limited hand with long clubs. After that it was always going to be difficult for North-South to reach Three No-Trumps from the North seat, the best game on their cards.

Petrounine led the six of clubs, which went to the ten and oueen. Declarer should play to ruff a heart, but in practice he decided to draw three rounds of trumps because of the impending club ruff. When he then led the eight of diamonds from hand. intending to run it, Petrounine rose with the king. Now declarer was helpless: he ducked the trick hoping the clubs were initially 6-1, but West could lead a club through dummy's Jx. and East got two club tricks and

the ace of hearts for one down.

If Petrounine had not risen

3-3 split in the suit would have seen declarer home. East wins the diamond and returns a low heart. As declarer needs West to have the king of diamonds he will play the king of hearts — East is likely to have the ace for his opening bid. And the king is the only winning play if the clubs are 5-2: if West has the ace declarer has no chance.

The Times Book of Bridge 1, compendium of some of Robert Sheehan's daily columns, is now available in all good bookshops or direct from the publisher, B.T. Batsford, on 01376 321276, price £6.99 (plus £l p&p).

Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Priday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

# By Philip Howard

SALONEAHIG

a. A kind of hornbill b. Betel mut c. A migrant worker

PONGAL a. A tart

OKIE

a. Respectable b. Long-striding c. A dining-car PENGO a. A penguiri chick b. A memory game

c. A Hungarian coin Amswers on page 50.



BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORKESPONDENT

Kasparov challenge

On Saturday world champion Garry Kasparov will play a simultaneous match against 100 players in aid of the Fragile X Society, who help those suffering from Fragile X Syndrome, a genetically inherited condition which is the most common cause of learning disability. The display will he at the Cobden Club in London and those interested in playing should contact Jasmin Pelham on 0171 935 3474

Russian wins

Two further examples of play from Russia's fine win in the recently concluded world team championship. White: Alexander Khalifman

Black: Oleg Romanishin World team championship Lucerne 1997

Queen's Indian Defence Nc3 Qc2 8 Bg5 9 d5 10 Be3 11 cvd5 b4 BdD 24 Kb1 25 Qd8 26 Bd4 27 Nf6+ Nict3

Diagram of final position E WINTER HIMANI 2 11 2 3 e e

White: Peter Svidler Black: Amador Rodriguez World team championship. Lucerne 1997

Sicilian Defence M3 Noos4 Noos Noos Niez3 Be7 0-0 Og4 Bh6 Bxf8 Qg3 14 exd8. 15 Rd1 16 Nb5 17 Dg5 18 Bc4 19 Qd4 20 No7 21 Oxo4 22 K/1 24 Ne8+ 25 Nd6+

alq

20

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der.

Black resions Dutch championship In the play offs for the champ- 1A ionship of Holland the many-uj times champion grandmaster Jan Timman lost to the former Yugoslav grandmaster. Predreg Nikloic 25-12.

Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

### By Raymond Keene

White to play. From the game Lytschak - Johansen, Tallinn

White has a strong attack, possibilities including a discovered check by the bishop and the rook invasion on c7. How did he combine these in a display of tactical fireworks? Solution on page 50

2 16 de 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1

wi. Saft 

BELGRAVIA

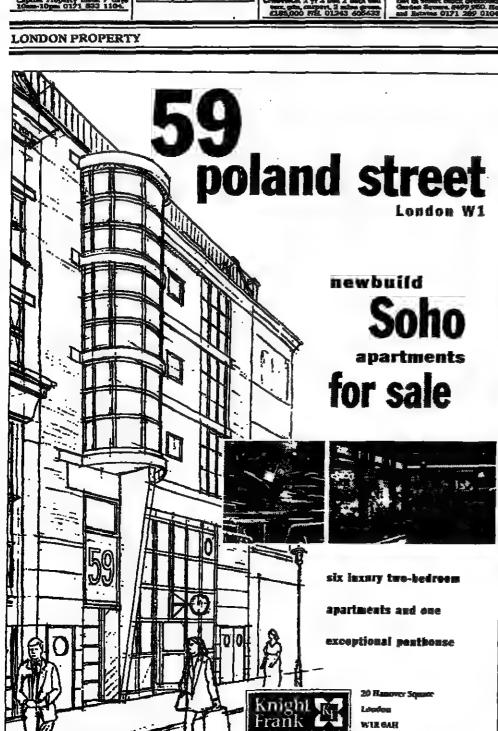
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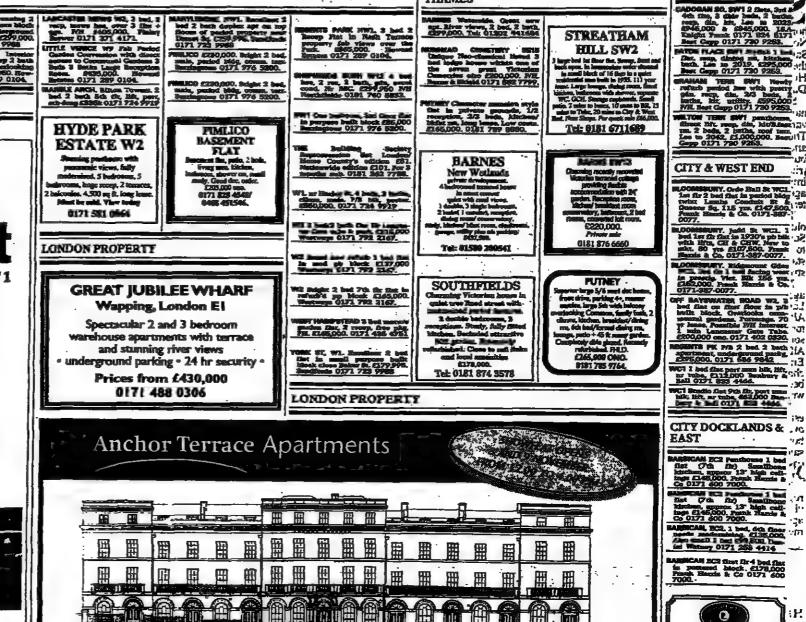
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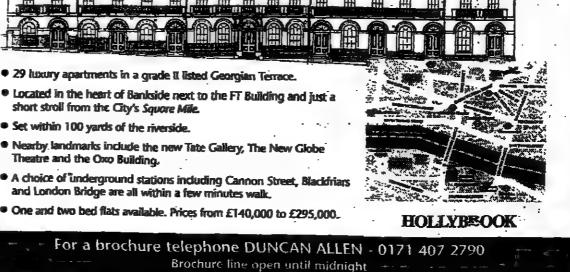


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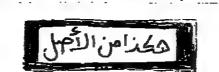
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Sue Herdman

reports on plans

to revive a

semi-derelict

street in an

historic city

street said to be England's oldest is soon to be given a 20th-century facelift. King

Street in Norwich, accord-

nne's Wharf as a catalyst that will

A spokeswoman from the Urban

in Manchester stunning but

derelict Georgian and Victorian

cotton mills are being transformed

into urban villages in former no-go

ghettos such as Hulme and

Ancoats. A decade ago the popula-

tion of Manchester city centre was

just 350. Today it is 4,000 and is

expected to grow to at least 10,000

Similar projects are under way in

Birmingham's historic jewellery

quarter, in the heart of Glasgow's

Gorbals, in Sheffield's Manor and

London's King's Cross, where the

seven conservation areas, Regent's

Canal and significant green spaces

have up to now been largely left in

The King Street plans in Nor-wich include the reinstatement of

medieval street patterns and the

in the next five years.



NIGEL WILLIAMS RARE BOOKS

Peter Harringtin

Sea guarra Chicato C

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State of the

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wrapping of a glossy modernist development around the ancient Dragon Hall, believed to be the only medieval merchant trading hall left in Europe. By the millennium there will be the ubiquitously trendy loft apartments for sale here, part of a lively

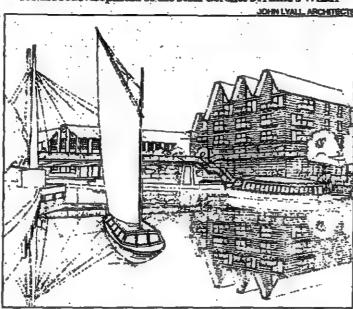
grimy neglect.

Docklands-type setting. The atmosphere in King Street today is both one of gentle dereliction and artisan elegance; the street

Injecting new life into

England's oldest street

Norwich's Dragon Hall in King Street and planning drawings for the redevelopment of the semi-derelict St Anne's Wharf



ed by unattractive 1970s ware-

ancient deconsecrated churches of St Peter Parmentergate (parmenters were the leather workers who were once here and St Etheldreda are still beautiful but crumbling. Their porches house beer-soaked sleeping bags belong-ing to the homeless, their gates provide a leaning post to wan-faced young women plying the oldest

But it was not always like this. In the 12th century the street housed the wealthy lewish guarter and was packed with fine timberframed houses and merchant

premises, friaries and taverns. It was home to the wealthy and wellconnected, including Anne Boleyn's grandfather, William, and the Dukes of Norfolk.

in the 19th century light industry arrived with tanneries, maltings, shoe factories and breweries. When those industries declined, some as recently as in the last decade, Norwich seemed to turn its back on the area, leaving the remaining pumps and their girls.

The architect at work on the we see whether this particular project is John Lyall. At the . urban village project has worked moment it is hard to say how well and whether King Street has his plans are going to work. The retained its artisan air.

a vivid imagination. He proposes concrete-framed buildings which will frame a tree-lined plazza with the already established Waterfront Club (a music and comedy venue) at one end and at the other a landscaped square.

The buildings will be dad with timber boarding, glass, brick and flint and will house airy three-storey flats with steep pitch roofs, loss of light and balconies overlook-

ing the river.
Underneath the flats will be bars and restaurants with a waterfront promenade which will run past shops, galleries, studios and

workshops.

But how will these look nestled beside and behind the ancient Music House (the oldest dwelling in the city) and the elegant Howard House (the past city home to the Dukes of Norfolk)?

Mr Lyall is sure his modernist approach will work. These designs will fit in with the local vernacular and bring a refreshing spirit of modernism," he says. "The process is like dentistry - we'll take out the rotten parts, such as the industrial sheds and brewery buildings, and assess the quality of what's left."

en Powell, director of the 20th Century Society, be-lieves in Mr Lyall's approach. "He has a reputation for thoroughly modern urban repair and restoration," he says, "which has been very successful in projects such as the restoration of the Grade I Corn Exchange and its surrounds in Leeds. That development was pivotal to the regeneration of the city."

If the success of Lyall's Covent Garden-type scheme in Leeds is anything to go by, the future of St Anne's Wharf looks promising. Certainly, the £30 million project has, so far, been enthusiastically received. The creation of jobs. homes, even a new heritage museum, is welcomed. Terry Elliott Shircore, a King Street resident, says: "The rejuvenation will force improvement along the whole length of the street." Mike Loveday, Norwich City Council's head of planning, says: The development will be important in linking the city

with the riverside." Work should start on the scheme next spring. The first phase and first loft flats will go on sale in 2000. Only then shall



# Belgravia beats Holland Park

What are the best addresses in London, asks Diana Wildman

new survey of central London estate agents has revealed that Eaton Square, Chester Square and Wilton Crescent are the most desirable London addresses. For flats, Eaton Square. Cadogan Square and Cadogan Place are, say the 34 agents surveyed, the best addresses.

This obsession with Belgravia is interesting because, until recently, many estate agents said that the area, compared with neighbouring Chelsea, was losing its appeal for many wealthy buyers.

The reasons, we were told, are twofold. First, overseas buyers - who form the bulk of purchasers at the top end of the market - much prefer to buy freehold properties. These abound in Kensington and Cheisea but are virtually non-existent in Belgravia. Secondly, the restrictions

imposed on commercial and residential properties by the Grosvenor Estate, which owns the freehold of most of Belgravia, deterred buyers.

But, Nick Pearce of the Sloane Square agents, Beaney Pearce, says this is changing. "Buyers are more informed about the 1993 Leasehold Reform Act and realise that they can entranchise and exmany potential buyers who refused to buy into Belgravia three or four years ago, but they know that

the possibility now exists to extend

Eaton Square has always had huge cachet, despite being bisected by a busy road. But Lorna Vestey of Knight Frank is surprised to see Chesham Place taking fifth place

London's best house addresses

Chesham Place to be central Lon-

don's most valuable address, far

out-performing rates per square

It is the cachet of Eaton Square

together with its jocation that

attracts so much interest, particu-

larly among overseas buyers. A

number of these, unfamiliar with

London, will live nowhere else.

according to Mr Pearce, not least

because it is the only place with

foot in Eaton Square."

which they are familiar.

knowledge of London was limited," he continues. "I tried to suggest other places to look at too in the flat stakes. She says: "Sales but there was no point. He had over the past two years have shown heard only of Eaton Square." The fact that beautiful houses overlooking acres of private gardens exist in Notting Hill and that there CAPITAL PLACES

Eaton Square, SWI

Chester Square, SWI

Wilton Crescent, SWI

. The Boltons, SW10

Cadogan Place SW1

Egerton Terrace SW3

. Gilston Road SWI0

Chelsea Square SW3

Belgrave Square SWI

Egerton Crescent SW3

in Holland Park matters not a jot to certain agents who seem keen only to promote areas of international promi-Ms Vestey is an exception. English families, on the whole, want houses with gardens and you tend not to find these in Beigravia," she says. "This is why freehold

houses in Kensington and

are grand detached mansions

"I recently had an extremely wealthy New York client, with

several homes worldwide, keen to

buy in Eaton Square but whose

Chelsea have seen the biggest price rises over the past two ears. Eaton Square may be the best flat address in London but it is almost unknown as a house address because few of the houses are available for sale.

"There are lots of multimillion-pound houses in Kensington and Holland Park, in areas such as Victoria Road, Phillimore Gardens and Addison Road, which we believe should definitely have been included in this survey."

### Why one of Britain's oldest estate agencies is changing its name

avills, the estate agent that has handled sales of houses as spacious as Hever Castle, the Astors' family home, and Earl Peel's Gunnerside estate in North Yorkshire, is to be renamed FPD Savills in January. The change comes after the sale of 20 per cent of its shares to the Hong Kong property group First Pacific Davies last week for £17 million.

Savills is the second agent to change name recently. In January, 1996, Rutley vanished from Knight Frank sale boards. The firm's image was one of dealing with ancestral estates, but more than half its business involves office blocks and indusrial sites. The partners wanted to swap the impression of tweedy gentleman land agents for the steely image of an international corporation.

The rebranding of Savills, one of the oldest estate agencies, founded by Alfred Savill in 1855, signals the company's plans to expand in the US. Savills hopes to take a stake in an American estate agency and to strengthen its continental links.

Mr Savill set up business as a land agent, surveyor and auctioneer at 27 Rood Lane, London EC3. The firm became Alfred Savill & Sons in 1886, when Alfred took his son into partnership. His grandsons followed in the early 1900s. In 1967, Alfred Savill & Sons merged with the West End firm Curtis & Henson, and in 1972 changed its name to Savills. The firm became a limited company in 1987, and won a stock market listing in 1988. The rebranding will involve changing 34

estate agency shops in Britain and 36 shops overseas, not to mention numerous sale boards advertising houses and estates forsale. The company refused to disclose the pst of rebranding, but has commissioned new logo from a design consultancy. The firm currently has 36 offices in Eu-

rope, but none in America. It was pre-viously associated with the US estate agency Galbreath, a tie broken last summer when Galbreath was sold to Lasalle,



# America beckons a grand old firm

another American agency. Godfrey Blott, FPD's managing director, said: "I expect we'll announce something in about three

national surveying firms.

Pressure for a US expansion had come

from existing FPD clients such as IBM.

and Motorola, Mr. Blott added. Several American firms have already approached

months. We need to address entering the months. We need to address entering the American market. If you want to compete offices in eight Asian cities, and the rest in with, say, Jones Lang Wootton, you've got to look like them."

ILW is the biggest British surveying firm overseas, and Savills, with 800 employees, is among the top ten international surveying firms.

Savills commercial and residential agency business will be repained, but the holding commercial and residential agency business will be repained, but the holding commercial and residential agency business will be repained, but the holding commercial and residential agency business will be repained, but the holding commercial and residential agency business will be repained. company. Savills plc, is not affected.

RACHEL KELLY

# Mortgage rates push up prices

HIGHER mortgage rates and rising house prices are likely to push up the cost of houses and flats by nearly 17 per cent by Christmas, new figures show.

Homeowners spend on average £27 out of every £100 of take-home pay on their mortgage. By Christmas, ac-cording to the Cheltenham & Gloucester's "affordability inlex", they can expect to pay E31.50, making housebuying the most expensive it has been

Twelve months ago the cost for five years. of buying a home was just £24.90, the index shows. Since then, it has become more expensive to buy a house. This ments. is because rising mortgage

How paying for a home will take more of your salary

rates and increasing house prices have outweighed the benefits of rising salaries and Sue Anderson of the Coun-

cil for Mortgage Lenders says such figures should be viewed in context. She adds: "Buying a house is affordable if one looks at long-term trends, although housebuying has become more expensive recently because of the interest rates rises and reduction in tax relief on mortgage interest pay-

payments is being reduced to 10 per cent from April 6, from the present level of 15 per cent. In 1994, relief was available on 25 per cent of mortgate interest payments. This means that a property costing

£31,000 will fall into the same

tax-relief bracket as a ing director of Cheltenham & Gloocester Building Society. says: "In the early 1990s our index showed boyers spend-ing about £70 in every £100 of take-home pay on mortgages. rents. Relief on mortgage interest

per cent."

The rise has not reached the levels of earlier this decade First-time buyers now have to spend on average only 11.9 per cent of their income on their mortgage, compared with 25.3 per cent back in 1990. This fall in initial repayments is caused mostly by the fall in interest rates, which have fallen from 14.99 per cent in 1990 to just 6.78 per cent by the second quarter of 1997. Ms Anderson says: "Inter-

est rate rises are most likely to affect those on the margins, who are just managing to afford their mortgages."

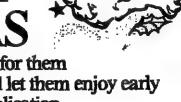
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NEIL HUDSON

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NETHERLANDS	(DFI)	778	56%	428	224	168
SPAIN	(PTS)	75299	26%	41414	21648	17143
SWEDEN	(SKr)	5232	14%	2878	1504	1056
SWITZERLAND	(SFr)	809	49%	445	232	177
REST OF EUROPE	.(2).	474		261	136	130
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CITY DOCKLANDS & EAST

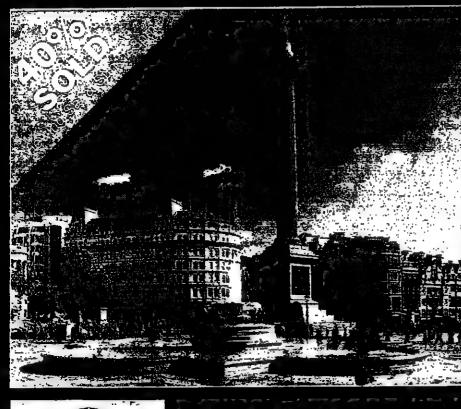
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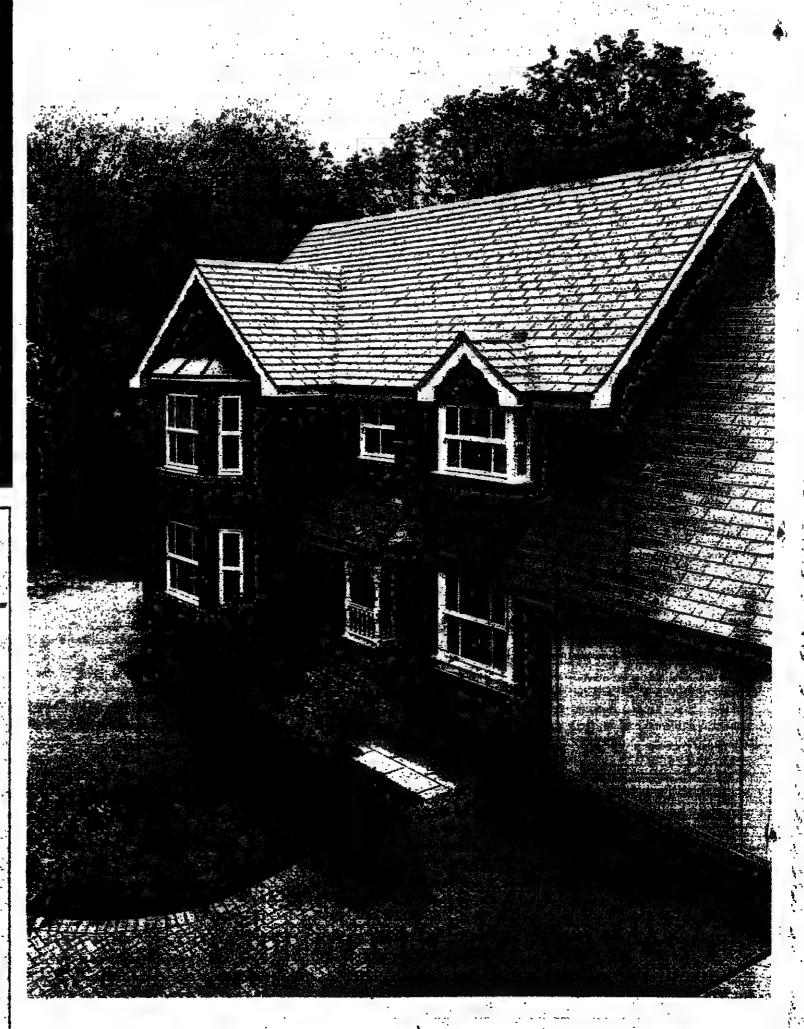
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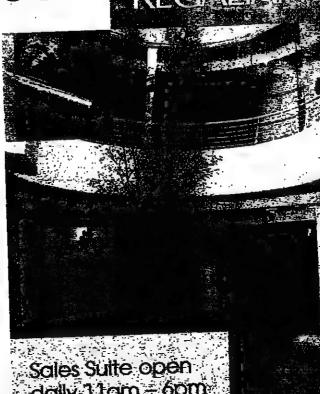
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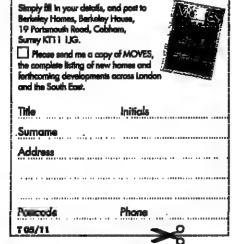
Loudon, ECS 07000 HUROME £135,000 to £395,000

6 8 4 6 6 3

Momenter House. An exciting new development of thirty-seven 1 and 2 hedroom apartments in this historical location in the heart of the city.

Wepping, E1 87600 NUEOME £300,000 to £750,000

Capital Wharf. Eighty-five 1, 2 and 3 bedroom apartments and penthouses, most of which have sunny south facing balconies overlooking the Thames with views of Tower Bridge.





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West Ingslows 01959 561 499 £215,000 to £230,000 Windwill Grange. Home to the world famous Brands Hatch motor racing circuit, this pretty Kentish village is now also home to five detached family properties, each with 4/5 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms and fitted https://press.com/

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Bargess Hall 01403 211230 From £240,000 to £260,000

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Esher 01932 576 500 £1.25m

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TBA

Middle Lane. A mews of eight stylish 2 and 3 bedroom houses by St James Homes with garages and gardens or parios within walking distance of Teddington railway surion. TO BE RELEASED.



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# Moves

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Just another way we ensure Berkeley Homes are finen

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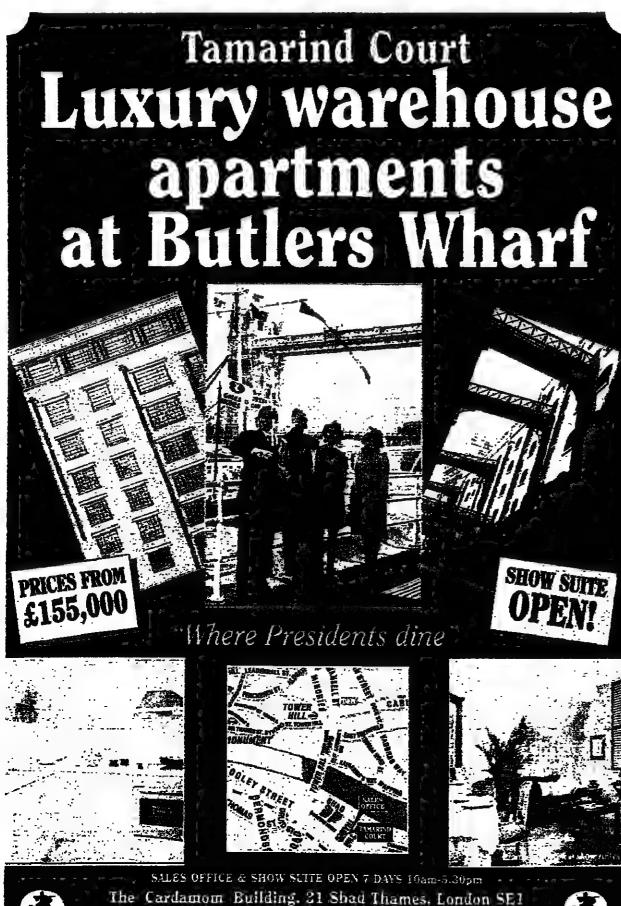
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**Disbelief** 



# Viking Flagship lifts gloom with fighting display

By Richard Evans, racing correspondent

RACES have been run at what is now called Exeter racecourse since the reign of Charles I came to a sticky end in 1649, but few can have surpassed the speciacle which unfolded yesterday as Viking Flagship outbanded Mulligan, his junior stable companion, in a memorable renewal of the William Hill Haldon Gold Cup Steeplechase.

Moves

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If the treat of a rehearsal for the Queen Mother Champion Chase was not sufficient this early in the season, National Hunt enthusiasts can now relish the prospect of a repeat performance or performances between the two David Nicholson-trained chasers.

Both have been pencilled in for the Tingle Creek Chase at Sandown and the Castleford Chase at Wetherby. If they clash, hey clash. Neither owner bets, both love the sport and that is what it is all about," Nicholson said.

Even the fog, which swirled for most of the afternoon around the historic racecourse perched on the top of Telegraph Hill, deigned to lift briefly as the six runners. made their way to post.

In the betting ring, punters appeared to be distinctly ageist in their preferences. Viking Flagship, something of a veteran at ten, was allowed to drift from an opening 7-1 to an insulting 9-1, while Mulligan, three years his junior, was 2-1, with Ask Tom installed the 7-4

Mulligan, a faller at Cheltenham and Aintree last season, set a demanding pace from the start under Adrian Maguire. Gales Cavalier, race-fit after a recent Wincanton victory, tried briefly to keep up with the gallop but soon found it too much and it was left to Ask Tom to jump alongside the leader from the fourth to seventh

All the time, Viking Flagship stalked the pacemakers,

### Singspiel scare

Singspiel, the favourite for the Breeders' Cup Turf at Hollywood Park on Saturday, has suffered a minor foot prob-lem. His trainer, Michael Stoute, postponed a workout planned for yesterday but expects Singspiel to be fit to exercise today. "We had a little problem." Stoute said. We were rather concerned but he is fine. He can live with it." Ladbrokes makes Singspiel 5-4 favourite from evens.

initially some lengths away before creeping closer." Unexpectedly, Ask Tom suddenly faded tamely and was pulled up before the third last, leaving Mulligan with a generous lead which looked sure to be converted into

But, as he turned for home, the demanding pace was beginning to take its toll and Viking Flagship, travelling loomed up alongside.

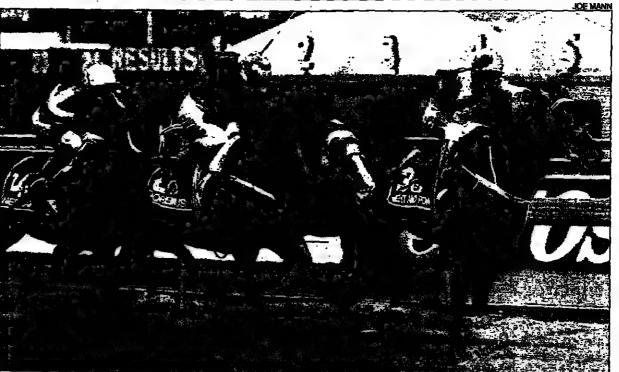
Richard Johnson waited until just before the last before taking the lead and any hopes Mulligan's supporters may have retained were dashed by a magnificent leap from Vi-

king Flagship. Nicholson, visibly moved. said: "I have never had one like him. He has won over £500,000 in prize-money. He came back to us before our open day on August 17. Usually we don't get him back until the end of September and the way he has been working at home, I knew he was right."

Johnson said: "Viking Flag-ship was struggling for the first half of the race, which made me think they must have been going pretty quickly. But he gradually got into it and he jumped up the straight like a superstar. He has been doing it for years and knows more about the game than I do."

Tom Tate, the trainer of Ask Tom, was nonplussed by the poor performance of the favourite. "He was well, fit and fancied. We are grasping at straws. The only thing I can think of is that he has never travelled overnight before. He has not eaten an oat but I am not putting that forward as an explanation."

The magnificent duel be-tween Nicholson's horses could not have been better timed for Exeter, which wrote another page in its history with the opening of an extension to the Brockman stand, complete with a new owners and trainers' bar, hospitality suites and betting hall.



Might And Power holds on by a short head to beat Doriemus in a thrilling finish to the Melbourne Cup

# Harbour Dues has rough passage

FROM BRIAN MELDRUM IN MELBOURNE

more than the margin by which he was

Lady Herries was delighted with the performance of Harbour Dues and immediately announced plans to bring him back next year. "It was a fantastic run," she said. "He just flew when he got out. Everyone wrote him off, but we knew he would run well."

Arabian Story ran into some minor interference early in the race, but his rider, Frankie Dettori, still considered he had a winning chance four furlongs out.

### BIG-RACE DETAILS

Going: good

Going: good
DA\_20 POSTERTS MELBOLIRNE CUP
(handicap: 2668,224: 2m)

1. MIGHT AND POWER (J. Cassidy, 7-2 tav); 2,
Dariemus (G. Hall, 9-1), 3, Markham (L. Ditiman, 25-1),
4, Harbour Duse (R. Cocirrens, 40-1), ALSO RAN (in
finishing order): Linesmen (5th), Arabian Story (5th),
Skybasu, Ebony Grosve, Saplo, Greatmaster, Court
Of Honour, Magnet Bay, Valil, Alwaye Aloci,
Scrupulous, Yobro, Surny Lane, Martie Halls, Alis,
Bonser Pipoline, Clying Game, Mount Chives, 22 ran.
Sh. hd, M. M., nose, 241, J. Denhem, Tote (inc 16Aus):
5,70; 2,90, 3,70, 8,90.

"He stayed on well to finish a gallant sixth," Dettori said. "That's probably as good as he could have gone, but if he had broken with them and not struck trouble he could have finished a couple of lengths closer.

Lord Huntingdon, Arabian Story's trainer, finished ninth with Drum Taps in 1993, but predicted he would have a runner in the first three next time. "We're getting closer," he said. "It was worth coming here, the horse acquitted himself well. I shall recommend to the Queen that Arabian Story be prepared for the

race again next year."

Might And Power, who won the Caulfield Cup two weeks ago, produced an impressive staying effort under Jim Cassidy to complete the double. He fended off Crying Game and then Lines-man before finding the reserves to hold the challenge of Doriemus.

However, the result proved costly for the bookmakers, leaving Kerry Packer arguably the biggest punter in the world the richer by an estimated £2.5

### as Canada upset the old world

FROM DAVID RHYS JONES

JIM AITKEN, from Vancouver, and Lyall Adams, of Edmonton, were on the telephone to Canada yesterday, after they beat the world pairs champions, Jeremy Henry and Sammy Allen, of Ireland, in the third round of the Manulife Hong Kong International Classic in Kowloon.

"It's not often that Canadian bowlers get the chance to meet, let alone beat, the world champions and we could not believe what we had done," Adams said after calling home

to tell his friends and family. The Irish went into the last end one shot in front, but Adams conjured up two shots with his very last bowl and Canada edged home, 16-15.

Such shocks are prone to happen in round-robins and there is time for the Irish to recover, Indeed, they bounced back to beat Lo Shu Wing and Tsang Chung Piu, of the intriguingly named Correctional Services Club, 33-12.

Wales recorded the highest score of the championships — 42. against Victoria Park -England returned the biggest winning margin, in their 41-8 success over Hong Kong Football Club, and Scotland compiled the longest scoring sequence, compiling 32 shots without reply against China Light and Power.

Andy Wills and Stuart Airey, of England, earned a 18-16 win over Ireland last night and, after five rounds. stand third in section B, while David Gourlay and Graham Robertson, of Scotland, put their opening defeat at the hands of Hong Kong behind them and are top of section A.

Hong Kong's official repre-sentatives, Tony Tong and Jacky Wong, turned a 13-1 deficit into an extraordinary 32-J7 victory to inflict a first defeat on Jim Melbourne and Ken Wallis, of Kowloon Crick-

Results, page 49

1.30 NO PATTERN (nap) 2.30 Knightsbridge Scot

3.00 Bayerd 3.50 Lets Be Frank 4.00 Royal Piper ::

Timekeeper's top rating: 3.00 BAYERD.

### 1.30 BONFIRE PARTY CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (\$2,222: 2m) (7 namers)

2113- VET ASSAN 61F F.B. (A GHENT) Miss & Knithmay 5-12-0 R. Thornton 106
313894- MO PATTERN 194 S9 (K Pagsan) 6.1 Moore 5-11-3 M Builchafer (5) 134
13125-P. SPROMTAYNE 8 (D.F. S.) (Mr. O Foster) J. Long 8-11-1 P. Hornton 107
371 (MMCFES 1128 (D.F.) (S Warsham) 6.1 Warsham 9-10-4 L. Aspail
0-4(145 TANISO MAN 5 (D.F.) (T & K Construction 14) J O'Shaw 8-10-8 J. Margor 111
02429- ALIXA MITERNATIONAL 200 (F Tourishy) Mr. P Tourishy 185
3820 (DIEPAST 15 (Mr. S. James) J Bridge 7-10-8 Sophia Marchall Long bandleser Yango Man 9-12, Alta Mantiforni 9-8, Diggast 9-1.

BETTRIE: 15-6 Yet Agels, 9-4 Ho Pallace, 9-2 Spokelayes, 8-1 Tango Mac, 10-1 Alla International, 14-1 Allabara 1896- NO CORRESPONDES RACE

Yet Again 441 and in Alberrana in course and distance handless handle food to firm); previously best Lucia Frote 154 in 2m 17 Tampion novice handle (good). No Pattern 231 4th to South Life: Firm in 2m Ascol matrice handless hardle (good to firm); previously 301 last of 5 to Tickerry's Gilt in 254m Lingfield handless handle (good to soil). Alrabeas best Best Cree 244 in 2m Wincardon navice handle (good to firm); previously 301 last of 5 to Tickerry's Gilt in 254m Lingfield handless handless in 24m 145 5th to 54m Syrkes Satte in 2m 11 Bargor handless burdle (good). Also international public up in 274m Foremal credite (good to firm); previously short head 2nd of 11 to Reverse Thrus; in Phrompton sovice tordis (good to firm). Disposal 321 7th to Reach The Clouds in 2m 11 Planeton handless (sood).

VET AGAINE in provid terms on the East Male handless the course for the course of the Satternation.

YET AGAIN, in good town on the Flat Rile learn, is taken to daily top weight

### 2.00 GUNPOWDER PLOT MOVICES CHASE (£3,355: 3m) (4-túraners)-

55: 3(n) (4-10/2005)
23513-1 MENESCENC 13 (0.8.5) (nin: W Yester; R Alber 7-11-6 A Thomson 118
APPLEP SCHELER 13 (C. 178) J. Mautris 7-11-0 P Healey (3)
3409- EVS HARBOLD 251 (Net 1 Biology (3) Sherwood 6-11-0 J. Ostorne
A1651- (OLAMPGTON 219 (F,G) (4) Pelbum) J. School 8-11-0 P Held onic, 11-5 Viscington, 4-1 By's Harbour, 33-1 Bestvelblu. 1996; BARCINET 8-17-0 A hitspire (8-13 km) D Michelson & ma

Menesonic heat Galateson Lane 131 in 314m Wincenten novice class topod) with Benbelbin 16th better offly prifted up. Ey's Rafrour pulled up in 314m Hostington novice huntle (pood in soft) previously 301 9th to 9th Bases in 25th increases novice huntle (good in soft). Klavlengton beet Southerntay Boy 15th 244m Wincenton andice house (firm).

MEHESONIC can confirm the favourable impression created at Wincenton.

### 2.30 FIREWORK NIGHT NOVICES HURDLE (\$2.857: 2m 5f) (11 runners) ·

(\$2,857 20) 51) (11 Tukerets)

BALLAM ROCKET (M Robarts) M J Robarts 5-10-10 R Processor (5) Oc. CHARLE BANGER 284 (D R A C Perfection) K Rodas 5-10-10 R Thronton (5) 70.

G. CHARLE BANGER 284 (D R A C Perfection) K Rodas 5-10-10 R Thronton (5) 70.

G. CHARLE BANGER 284 (D R A C Perfection) Mes 5 Seath 6-10-10 R Bastot 85 (P. 10-10-10 R) Processor (1) Processor (1

1998: MILLERSFORD 5-10-10 J R Keepingh (11-2) N Baselee 11 mil

Charlie Bayler beaten a distance 7th to Owen Oi Spates in 2m Sandown novice hurdle (good) to soft). Bressray 371 4th to Albub in 2m Haydock novice hurdle (good), Joby James tell in 24 m Shattore novice hurdle (good) envirously 401 3rd in Soften in 2m Charles thou novice hurdle (good) in 2m Charles though good in 2m Charles though their (good). Rising Man 311 8th to Sharpical in 214m Foliastoon novice hurdle (good). Sooting Pedigrae 322 14th to Arctic Canger in 2m Punchestown NH Bat race (good). Starting Dancer wen over 2m hera on Flat.

KNRGHTSBREDGE SCOT is a temption choice to overcome a lengthy absence

### HAYDOCK PARK THE TOTAL PROPERTY OF THE PARTY 122145 ' 8000 TMEB 13 REF.F.B.S) (Mrs. C) Robinson's B Holl 12-0

MISFORTUNE in running may well

have cost Harbour Dues, trained by

Lady Herries, a famous victory in the

Melbourne Cup yesterday. Ridden by Ray Cochrane, the five-year-old came with a storming run through the last two furlongs to finish fourth, a length

behind the winner, Might And Power,

the 7-2 favourite. The Queen's Arabian

Story also ran a creditable race to finish

sixth, and he too might have finished

Harbour Dues suffered interference

four furlongs from home which Cochrane believed cost him a higher

placing, if not victory. The interference,

he reported, put him further back than

he wanted to be on the home turn, and

left him with some eight lengths to make

up on Might And Power, who made all

of the running. "At the top of the straight I thought we had a bit of running to do,

but I knew we had plenty left," Cochrane

Greg Hall, the rider of Doriemus, was

given a severe reprimand for causing the

interference which cost Harbour Dues

closer but for a slow start.

d nomber, Sin-Squar from (F -- left, P -up: JJ -- servened rider, B -- betought
S -- allowed op. R -- retuned, D -land, Horse's name, Days since, lest
F f flat. (B -- biblions, V -- vincy, H --- Epushhild, C -- course wincer, D -- vener, CD -- course and clinings

services. OF — commit security in waste pents. Soling on which basse less won (F — firm, pand to limm, tard. E — good. S — test, good to solt, jameys. Charac in beschelt: Trainer, Age and weight. Hiden plus say allowance. The Times Timescoper's spend calong.

### 3.00 BUY FAWKES HANDICAP CHASE

1 12294-1 MONTHORS 15 (D.E. S.) Exchany Rocke C.(ch) A P. Jones B-11-8 ... R. Buset 108
2 PREP-11 SOLO GENT & OLD-E, S.) Exchany Rocke C.(ch) A P. Jones B-11-8 ... A McCarthy 128
3 6/1222- HASH LEARE 277 (BF-S) (E Horney) A H. Hartey 7-11-3 ... ... JA. McCarthy 128
4 1124223 BAYERD 15 (BF-D.F.G.S) (T.G. K. Construction (Le) J. O'Shan 8-11-8 R. Thornion (D.) 127
5 1/PF1F SAN FERMAND 929 (G.S.) (Hash S. Bringions) J. Stitort 11-10-13 ... P. Hole 6 4644-64 LAKE O'L COLGRITICA 13 (B.F.S.) (Hash S. Bringions) J. Billey 7-10-13 ... A Thornion 121
BETTING: 18-8 Magnitrons, 7-2 Solo Gent, 9-2 Report, 8-1 San Francesco, 7-1 High Lenox, 8-1 Lake O'l Loughnu. 1996; DRUMCULLEN 7-11-0 C O'Duyer (4-1) K Balley 7 pm

Monymose best The Gopher 2: in 3m Huntingdon hundicap chase (good). Solo Sant best Count Barachois 111 in 3m11 Townester bendicap chase (good). This Lumin boolon a Discount when land to Domaine De Prop in 3m Worcester novice chase (good to firm). Beyond 1941 3rd to Fazer island to 15fm Chepstow handicap chase (good). San Fernando, lell at Ayr latest, previously heat Rocky Padi. 15f hz 2m57 Wincanton novice chase (good). Late Of Loughnes 177 4th to inch Emperor in anatours 25fm Ludlow handicap chase (good to firm). MONYMOSS, raised just 2th for his easy Huntingdon success, has solid clarges

### 3.30 PARLIAMENT HOYICES CHASE

(£3,371: 2m 4f 110yd) (7 puncers) #\$\( \) \$

BETTRICE 2-1 Spring Gale, 3-1 Lets the Frank, 6-1 Yine Ato I, Operator, 7-1 Reyal Russer, Shekata, 12-1 Bouston County, 1998: PINE THYNE 7-11-0 M A Pasyonid (6-5 tar) 6 Harwood 8 rat

Who Am I best With Impurity 1941 in 294m gade II Worcester novice hardle (good to soft). Lets Be Frank neck 2nd to Edgernout Prince in 294m Warnick hardings hardle (good). Operatio 52 9th Deau De Cologne in 294m Hereford rovice hardle (good). Shekets, pulled up at Markel Rasen latest, postousely 21 2nd to last Denn in 294m Startlerd novice hardle (good). Special Spring Gale, pulled up at Challesham Julest, previously best Charley Lambert 1941 in 294m Dencester novice hardle (good to form).

LETS BE FRANK, a usually hundler, will be frank to best if tebing to the larger obstacles

### 4.00 CATESBY HANDICAP HURDLE (23,420: 3m 110yd) (5 runners).

1 1533P41 SMDH 100 11 (0.5.6) Small Mancheld Ment Col Mrs. J. Phrana (9-11-10 R. Farnet 114
2 44125-7 FLYING FEDULER 18 (B.C.F.S) (M. Roberts) M. J. Roberts 6-17-9 P. Henley (0) 121
3 425351- ROYAL FIRET 217 (0.5.5) (A. Darington) A. J. Weton 10-11-8 L. Harrey 119
4 44155- SMUSSIERS FDMT 124 (F.S.) (Mrs. V. Hann) J. Bookpa 7-11-1 Sophia Inflicenti (5) 120
5 USP-340 JOHAN, MAN 15 (F.S.) (Mrs. B. Marchand) R. O'Salthant 8-10-9 \_\_\_\_\_ J. Osborne 112
BETTING: 7-4 Rying Fiddler, 11-4 South Ton, 7-2 Royal Figer, 13-2 Smuggler's Point, 7-1 John Man.
1898: OCEAN HAMM: 4-11-11 C. Liowellyn (9-4 lav) N. Twiston-Davies 9 fan

Smith Too beal Couchent neck in 3m Market Risen bandicap burdle (good). Rying Fiddler beat Steep Command 51 in 2m5/ Kempfon handicap hordle (good). Ruyal Piper beat Barlord Sovereign 14.1 is 3m Whorester handicap hundle (good in film). Smaggler's Point 211 5th to 51 Ville in 25km Fortheell handicap hundle (good in film). Smaggler's Point 211 5th to 51 Ville in 25km Chepstow handicap hundle (good).

SMOTH TOO, a game winner at Market Rasian, can dely top weight

	C	OUR	SE S	PECIALISTS			
TRAINERS R About K Balley Mar J Phonon O Sherwood S Door C Brooks	Was 8 11 6 8 3 4	Rnrs, 33 54 31 42 21 34	% 27.3 20.4 18.4 19.0 14.3 11.8	JOCKEYS J Geomes P Hendery N Williamson P Hide S McNeil Only qualifiers	Winners 29 3 14 6 4	Rides 111 12 77 53 36	25.1 25.0 19.7 11.3 11.1

Warwick

Going: firm, good to firm in places

1,40 (2m hože) 1, Gray Pastel (A P McCoy, 1-3 tav); 2, Blue Chesse (8-1); 3, Linea-G (7-1), 5 tan. 1%L, M. M Pipe. Tota: 21.30; 21,10, 21.50. DF: 92.80 CSF £3.71.

2.10 (2m hole) 1, Aubum Boy (A P McCoy, 7-1); 2, Albernine (7-2); 3, Figon (5-1), Brambles Way 5-4 fav, 10 ran, NR: My Biry Boy, 21, 41, Williams, Tote; £8,20; \$3.20, £1.80, £1.10, DF: £9.50, This: £13.70, CSF: £28.64.

£13.70. CSF: ±28.04.
2.49 (3m 2f ch) 1, Gower-Slave (W. Marston, 11-4), 2. Little Tincture (evens tay), 5 ran, 8l. F. Bowen, Tote: £3.90; £1.50, £1.10 DF: £2.60. CSF: £5.92

21.10 DF 22.00. CSF; 25.92 3.10 (2m 3f hdis), 1. Royel Action (J Osborne, 8-13 tes); 2. Meazemet (11-8); 3. Rocky's Profiles (25-7), 3 ser. NR. Sa-Ment. 18, cist. O Shewood. Tote: £1.50 DF £1.10. CSF; £1.70

3.40 (3m 2) ch) 1, Commanche Creek (A P McCoy, 3-13 lav); 2, What Is The Plan (7-2) 3 ran. Sh hd. M Pipa, Yote: £1 40. DF: £2.10, CSF: £2.77.

4.10 (2m hdle) 1, Soldingo (Mr S Durack 11-8 tax); 2, Rober's Toy (5-2); 3, Squire's Occasion (13-8), 3 ran, 2/H, hd, C Price Totar (2-6), DF (2-8), CSF: £4-32

Placepot: £22.90. Quadpot: £4,90,

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Haydock Parts 3 40 Two For One.

1. VIII 550

### RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

### Redcar Going: good, good to firm in places Soring good, good in Section (J. Fortune, 1.30 (7f) 1. Gypsy Passion (J. Fortune, 14-1); 2. Dog Watch (S-1); 3. Free Option (100-30) Krissinton 9-4 law 18 ran. 2. nk. M. Johnston Totes 221 (10; 53-40, 21 ab. 21-40. DF. 237.10. Tho: \$21.20. CSF-

253.31
2.00 ((m) 1. Benesian (T Williams, 5-1 tau); 2. Pes. De Memoires (11-1); 3. Ocean Line (14-1); 4. Merske Mechins (9-1) 27 ran. Sh. hd. 41. J. Eyrs. Tote. 54.90; 61.40, 62.00, 68.30, 62.50. DF-226.80. Trio. 2579.00. CSF 257.27. Tricket 2737.07.

230 (6) 1. Primo Lara (1 Cuinn, 10-1). 2. Double Spiendour (12-1): 3. Always Aught (12-1): 4. Cadesaw Cher (25-1). Tier 5-1 law 25 ran. 41, 11, 12 Hanta Toto. £11.00; £2.30, £4.60, £4.10, £11.10, DF; £222 70; Tier £2.032 80. CSF. £123.68. Tricast: £1.423.46 E1.423.46 9.00 (1m 30) 1, Fantali (D Biggs, 7-1), 2. Night Mirage (15-2), 3. Asolinis (12-1), 4. Pratiesh (16-1), Applo 9-2 law: 17-ran 3, 141. M Tomphinis Tota: P10 70; 22:30, C2-40, 22:90, 55:00, DF 251.30, Tho C2-40, 22:90, 55:00, DF 251.30, Tho C2-44, 90, CSF: 256.40, Thicast 29:99 33.

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4.00 (i.m. 2); 1, Jedi Knight (I. Chemock, 7-1); 2, Essayelises (II-2 kar); 3, Clessic Find (II-1); 4, Newbridge Boy (14-1); 17 sar. Ns. Ns. Ns. W Besterby, Tota: 26 70; 11.90; C1.50, C2.00, C4.30. DF. 212.80. Tric: 248.90. CSF: £38.95. Tricest: 2252.63. Jackpot not won (pool of £68,512,02 carried toward to Haydock Park loday).

### Piecepot: 5223.50. Quadpot: 570.20. RICHARD EVANS

Nap: KILMINGTON (2.00 Kempton Park) Next best: Quange (2.40 Haydock Park)

### Exeter

Going: good to soft 1.20 (2m if 110vd hole) 1, King Of The Deten (C Uswellyn, 9-2); 2, Macanonis (4-1); 3, Fill The Set (3-1 (4-ba), Village-King 3-1 (4-ba), 11 ran 5l, 4l N.Millachel, Tole; 55.80; £1.80, £1.80, £1.80, £1.80, DP £20.90 Tric 1244.90. CSF: £56.40. Incest: £589.93. 3.30 (55) 1. Athen (T G Mitjaughin, 4-1); 2. Nobelino (5-1), 3. Bejen Rossi (5-1), Just 506 11-4 (av 8 ren. 3), 1141. R Marvin, Tole: £3.60; £2.10, £1.50, £1.10, DF £11.00. CSF: £21.00

# 1.50 (2m 3f húfe) 1, The Brewer (R Bellamy, evens fav): 2, Walter's Destiny (7-2): 3, Queen Of The Sulf (50-1), 6 ren. B, dist. J Tuck, Tole: 51,70; 51,40, 62,40. DP: \$3.90, CSF: £4,37.

2.20 (2m ii 110yd chj 1, Viking Piagship (R Johnson, 9-1); 2, klulilgan (2-1); 3. Gales Coveller (7-2), Ask Tom 7-4 tav. 6. rar. St. dat. D Nahokor. Totar 159.80; 12.30, 12.00. UP 111.50, CSF: 126.31. 2.50 (2m 6i 110yd ch) 1. Abewerd (J. Frost, 5-1); 2. Pongo Waring (7-2); 3. Shining Light (2-1 ten), 6 ren. Sl. 12. R. Frost, Tole: 97.70; 53.10, 92.20. DF: \$13.30. CSF: \$19.75.

3,20 (2m 11 110yd ch) 1, Ground Nut (R Dunwoody, 7-1); 2, Ambleside (9-2); 3, Zsbadi (10-11 tev), 8 ran. NP: Grosvenor Heath. Bt., 4t. R. Buckler, Tota; £7.30, £3.50, £2.10 DF: £8.90, CSF: £32.32. 3.50 (2m 3i hole) 1, Handsion (D Salter, 5-2); 2, Va Utu (3-1); 3, Dictum (15-8 lav). 6 cm. 114), dist. 8 Millman. Tote: \$2.90; 21.40, \$2.80. DF: \$4.70. CSF \$8.33

4.20 (2m 11 110vd 8et) 1, Potter Again (R Measey, 9-4 favi; 2, Daisy (9-2), 3, Bally Lia (7-1), 14 ran, NR; Indian Legend, 7, 2%L O Nicholson, Tota: £3.50; £1.20, £1.80, £3.70, DF; £3.60, Trio: £31.00 CSF £10.48. Placepot £142.60 Ouradpot: £41.40,

### 1.10 (£2,941: 2m) (15 runners)

201 2344 RUPENC SPREZE 8 N.F.S.) M Pape 3-12-0 ... 6 Cillon (3) 202 34-2 MITHRAIC 42 (F) W Comminghest 5-11-0 ... 5 Daniek (7) 203 42-4 CATHESINE'S CHOICE 284 M Homorout 4-14-16 L Demonstration 244 CATHESINE'S GONGE 284 M Homorout 4-14-16 L Demonstration 250 42:5-5 CARLISE EAVENITOS 165 (F) 18-875 5-10-4 Mines F Robston (3) 205 FSF- CRICULATION 228 65-53) D McCain 11-10-0 ... G Lake (7) 200 MP- MCCAE JUE 158 60,5-63,5 M Tale 11-10-0 ... 0 Methal (7) 18-8 M Homorous 21 Methal 12 M Homorous 200 Mines Northing 4.3 Committee (4) 200 Mines (4) 200 15-8 Michiele, 2-1 Mordie Breze, 7-2 Carlisle Bandillo's, 4-1 Calbernie's Choice, 12-1 Circulation, 20-1 Michie Joe.

(£5,368: 2m) (5)

COURSE SPECIALISTS

### NEWTON ABBOT

THUNDERER 1.20 Barnapour, 1,50 Sam Rockett. 2.20 See More Business. 2.50 Dolce Notte, 3.20 Dr Leunt. 3.50 Tidal Force. 4.20 St Mellion Stream.

HANDICAP CHASE (£2,840; 2m 110yd) (10 numers) 5-2 Gamapour, 7-2 Tiglal Fist, 6-1 Reliet Hazumer, 8-3 Wilson Wonder, Pair Cl Jacks, Wooderfull Polity, 10-1 Alt Clear, 14-1 olikes.

4-7 See More Bookers, 7-2 Septent Cook, 7-1 Evergetics, 12-1 Flow, 20-1 Maple Dancer

# 2.40 SERARD HANDICAP HURDLE (52,773: 2m) (8)

9-4 Levilicus, 11-2 Sanchaggedagam, 13-3 Foreign Rule, 7-1 Russian Aspeci. Julgibos Jive, 8-1 Benyillam, 10-1 Sibers.

3.40 GLENBOYNE HIGHLAND MALT WHISKY

10-11 The Proms 5-4 Raylana Star, 14-1 Abaskan Heir 16-1 Two For One

4.10 WEATHERBYS STARS OF TOMORROW OPEN

2.50 ROGERS OF PLYMOUTH HOVICES HURDLE

7-4 River Challenge, 2-3 Dolbe Nome, 4-1 Ropal Por Black, 8-1 Site Governor, 16 1 Tarang Cooper 25-1 Lauren's Tratsute. Vol. Del Quatro, 33-1 offers.

1 50-1 DR LEUNT 14 (6,5) P Hobbs 6-11-5 R Dunwoody 2 1121 GALATASORI JANE 7 07,56) P Nachols 7-11-0 A P NacCoy 3 111- STRONG CHARMAN 1939 (7-6) P Nachols 6-11-0 T J Murphy 4 PS-0 BLAZING MARKACE 14 Mrs. R Henderson 6-10-7 ... D Salter

5-4 Tatal Force 2-1 Dennis Doncer, 3-1 Influence Profiler, 7-1 SI Ville 20-1 Royle-5

4-5 Or Legal, 13-6 Strong Chairman, 6-1 Galateson Jene, 50-1 Blezing Altracte

3.20 GEOFFREY BOND HOVICES CHASE

3.50 WILLIAM HILL HANDICAP HURDLE

(£2,243; 3m 3l) (11)

(£6,775: 3m 2f 110yd) (4)

(£5,524: 2m 6l) (5)

NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,278: 2m) (16)

MOVICES CHASE (Qualifier: £3,701: 3m) (4)

1.10 Foundry Lane. 1.40 Carilele Bandito's. 2.10 Regal Romper. 2.40 Saint Ciel. 3.10 Levitious. 3.40 The Proms. 4.10 Castle Clear.

(3-Y-O, £2,913: 2m) (15)

### 5-2 Thereur, 3-1 Orango, 5-1 Saint Clai, 7-1 Proofighier, Conaur Express, 10-1 Fon Terrior, I'm A Draumer, 20-1 General's Ordors. TOTE JACKPOT MEETING 3.70 BIRCHFIELD JUYENHE NOVICES HURDLE

101 01 PRINCE MISKY 13 (D.S) J 016 4-11-4 ... 102 22 CUL DE SAC 18 5 Brookstan 8-10-12 ...

7-4 Foundry Lane, 7-2 Prince Kinsty, 6-1 Cal De Sac. 8-1 Feet Light. 12-1 Lander, Troubled Nan. 14-1 Current More, 20-1 pitters.

1.40 PRESTON AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP HURDLE (\$2,588: 2m 4f) (6)

### 2.10 GAMEKEEPERS HANDICAP CHASE

201 - 331 SPANISH LIGHT 5 (CD.F.S) Sr. J Barton B. II-12-0 . P Meet 125 302 314 - MONYMANN 195 (SF.D.F.G) M Hammand 7-11-1J . II Barnity 125 303 333 - BANNAGEERA BOY 254 (D.S.S.N M. Jacks R-11-0 ... T Jacks 304 PST4 REGN, ROMPTS 507.0,F.G.S) Mrs. S. Samb 9-11-8 F Ryan (S) 107 305 3111 SUAS LEAT 22 (D.F.G.) Juliusson 7-10-7 .... E Callegium (S) 118 6-4 Suss Leat, 7-2 Moneman. 4-1 Ragel Romper, 9-2 Spacett Light. 8-1 Barracesco Boy

TRAINERS: F Jordan, 4 minners from 10 numbers, 40.0%, J Fázgerald, 13 from 47, 27.7%, G Rechards, 26 from 102, 25.5%, J Old, 3 from 12, 25.0%, T Tale, 4 from 16, 25.0%. JOCKEYS: E Callaghan, 3 winners from 6 rides, 50.0%; C Uewellyn, 13 fram 52, 25.0%; A Maguire, 19 from 46, 21.7%; C Maude, 5 from 36, 19.2%; A Dobbin, 11 from 63, 17.5%.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM

1.20 WEST COUNTRY FESTIVAL NOVICES

### 1.50 J C MILTON SHE'S FINALLY GONE HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,253: 2m 1l) (9)

6-2 Sam Rockett, 3-1 Sport UT Fools, 7-2 Reach The Clouds, 6-1 Same Discours, 7-1 Docklands County, 10-1 Prisons the Berry, 25-1 Mistress Resis, 33-1 others,

### 2.20 SPA-TRANS HANDICAP CHASE

(£6,801:-3m 2t 110yd) (5) 1 22F- SEE MORE BUSINESS 256 (6.3) P Netholis 7-11-10

 $4.20\,$  J  $_{
m c}$  milton live found love at HIGHBURY OPEN NH FLAT RACE (£1,214: 2m 1f) (6)

55- COSY ROBE 201 N Twister-Davids 5-11-4 J Goldstein (7)
EASTDON GOLD DUST A Hobbs 4-11-4 NE A Perpendid
ORSWELL THATENSWELL P Hobbs 5-11-4 R Durwenody
SPORTING CHANGE B Frost 5-11-4 J First
ST MELLION STREAM M Page 5-11-4 A P NaCCy
1100/R BLOWDE P Page 6-10-13 S Burnsugn 1-2 St Melton Stream, 4-1 Oracettraterranell, 5-1 Cosy Ride, 20-1 Sporting Chance, 25-1 Eastdon Gold Data, 50-1 Tuster Blonds

### **COURSE SPECIALISTS**

TRANSPIS: R Phillips. 3 winners from 8 runners. 37.5%; P Hobbs. 53 auto 174, 30.5%; J Old. 9 from 32, 28.7%. M Pipe, 101 from 379, 26.6%; P Nicholis, 36 from 142, 25.4%. JOCKEYS: R Dumentody. 62 winters from 191 notes, 32.5% A P NoCoy 53 ham 166, 31.9%; C Westo, 4 from 16, 25.0%, 1 J Marphy 7 hom 37, 18,9%, 6 Tomay, 7 from 38, 18.4%

### FIXTURES

FOOTBALL Kick-off 7:30 unless stated European Cup Champions' League Group A Borusea Dortmund v Parma (7 45) Galafasaray v Sparla Progue (7 45)

Group B Feyencord v Man Utd (7 45) ... Juvenius v FC Koessa (7 45) ... ... Group C Barcelons v Dynamo Kiev (7 45) ... Newcastle v PSV Eindhoven (7 45)

Group D FC Pono v Rosanborg (7 45) . . . Olympiakos v Real Madrid (7.45) . Group E

IFK Gothenburg v Besiktas (7.45) . Pans S-G v Bayern Munich (7.45) Group F Bayer Leverkusen v Sp Lisbon (7 45) and Lierae Sk v AS Monaco (7 45) ..... Nationwide League

Third division Engition v Barnet (7 45) .........

Bell's Scottish League Second division Clydebank v Queen Of South

Clydebant v Queen Ol South
DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Cup: First round, second leg: Stergbourns (R)
v Crawley (3), Wabech Town (0) v
Grantham (1)
FA CARLSBERG VASE: First round's replay: Porthleven v Swindon Supri-timanie; Newbury AFC v Endsteigh AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION.
First distinct South amount of the Town (1)
Cupers Park Rangians (at Northwood FC): Withbedon South (at Rough Lane, 20)
Postponed: Ipowich v West Ham United.
PONTINES LEAGUE: Cup: Gross one: 3-1 Strambichall Dake, 9-2 Castle Clear 7-1 Milesden, 8-1 Big Punks, 10-1 Humi Flyer, Tris Of The Tradis, 12-1 Cause, Jack Robbio, 14-1 offices

Postponed; Ipawich v West Ham Unded, 3: PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Cup: Group one: "Outrism v Burney (as Stalybodge Celtic FC; 7: 01 Group two: Sheffield United & Scurthorpe (at Don Valley Societion, 7: 0); "Group street Walsall v Leicester (7: 0); "Group four: Stockport v Bury (at Hydig: United FC, 7: 0); "Wigen v Stoke (7: 0); "Group sto: Rotherham v Blackpool (7: 0); "Grammare v Scarboologh (7: 0); "ANNOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUE;" First division: Peratth v Munten First division: Pennih v Munton WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: Fina division: Confilman v Chatham. orvision: Contribian v Chatham. SCREWFLX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Bridport v Bidelard: Tomington v Barnerings

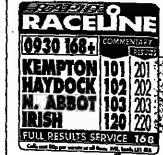
JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES'
LEAGUE: Promer division: Soham v
Newmarket: Stowmarket v Febusiosee Portand Town
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First davision: Cowes Sports v Ryds Sports A
Eastleigh v Gosport.
PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHLAND;
LEAGUE: Deveronvals v Nam County.
(8.0).

FA YOUTH CUP: First round: Shrewshury v Boldmere St M; Bradford v Nureaton; Bournemouth v Gillingham, Huddersteid, York, Third qualifying round replay; Wembley v Walton and Hersham.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Boodle and Dunthome Cup: Bollon v Wellingborough; Strewsbury v Si Bedes RUGBY UNION

Tour matches London Irish v New South Wales (7:30) Oxford Univ v Tonga (7 30) ....

RUGBY LEAGUE Tour Major Wales Students v Queensland Students (at UWIC RUFC, 7.0) ........



# United put accent on fluency in **Dutch test**

FROM OLIVER HOLT, POOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

THEY know here, in the heartland of Dutch football, that Manchester United have scored 13 goals in their past two games. They know that their visitors are on a hot streak and, when the English champions landed here yesterday lunchtime, ready for their European Cup Champions' League tie against Fevenoord tonight, the home fans could have been forgiven for sniffing scent of scorched earth.

United are leaving a trail of wee and destruction behind them as they go, rampaging through the FA Carling Premiership and carrying all before them in Europe, too. The way things are going, opposing coaches will soon be

demanding danger money to play Alex Ferguson's team: first Arie Haan, the Feyenoord coach, lost his job in the wake of his side's 2-1 defeat at Old Trafford a fortnight ago, then David Pleat paid the penalty for Sheffield Wednesday's 6humiliation at Old Trafford

on Saturday. On the short flight from Manchester yesterday, the players were pictures of relaxation and quiet but unshakeable \_confidence. When they arrived at their hotel on the outskirts of the city, the same hotel that United used before they beat Barcelona in the 1991 Cup Winners' Cup final here, all the talk was of the great strides that they have made in their approach to the Champions' League since last season.

Peter Schmeichel, the United goalkeeper and captain, gave an eloquent explanation how attitudes have changed. He even suggested that the narrow margin of United's victory against Feyenoord last month had subsequent superlative performances against Barnsley and Wednesday.

"We have played games this season where we did not take all our chances," Schmeichel said. "I thought the Fevenoord match was one where we should have done much better and we went into the Barnsley game saying to ourselves that what we did in that match was not right. Then we went out and scored seven goals. It was a good response.

We have all really enjoyed the Champions' League this season. We realise we have got a chance of winning it. We are more determined now. We also know we did not do as well as we should have done last year, but we learnt a lot from that and that is evident from the way we are playing. We feel we have found a way to play these games. We have found the necessary patience and discipline. We have got

that recipe right now."
Feyenoord, by contrast, seem to be struggling with a mix of unpalatable ingredients. Their loss at Old Trafford was followed by a 4-0 walloping at the hands of their great rivals, Ajax, which was the last straw for Haan. Geert Meijer, his assistant, was giv-en temporary control, but some reports suggest that Feyenoord are about to apformer Real Madrid coach, as Haan's full-time successor.

United should be too strong for the Dutch and a win in the De Kuip Stadium, coupled with the formality of victory over FC Kosice in a fortnight is almost certain to see United through to the quarter-finals.

"We have got off to a dream start," Ferguson said. group. If we do that, that is it. Everyone has a chance in football and so do Feyenoord tomorrow. I have seen some funny results in my life and that won't stop, but hopefully there won't be one here."

Vos, left, and Cruz put their back into training as Feyenoord prepare for their Champions' League match tonight

# Parma pledge to attack in Dortmund

BORUSSIA Dortmund, the defending European champions, who have won only three matches out of 13 in the Bundesliga this season, will hope to recapture at least some of last season's form when they entertain Parma in tonight's European Cup Champions' League match, having lost 1-0 in Italy a fortnight ago.

A win would take the Germans to the

top of group A, the only one in which the top two clubs play each other tonight. Carlo Ancelotti, the Parma coach, has nicked an attacking side, hoping to take

advantage of the absence of several key Borossia defenders. Ancelotti said Saturday's 1-0 league defeat by Internazionale, which dropped Parma to third place in Serie A, was a "normal episode against a powerful opponent". He added: "Our teamwork should prevail."

Nevio Scala, the former Parma coach who is now in charge at Dortmund, will be without the injured Matthias Sammer, Jürgen Kohler and Stephane Chapuisat. "If you want to visit the Dortmund team, you have to drive to the hospital," Gazzetta dello Sport said

recently. "We're not dead. We'll play a great game," Scala promised on behalf of

In group D, Real Madrid, who have nine points after three matches, will be without Roberto Carlos, who is suspended, against Olympiakos. The Spaniards beat the Greeks 5-1 two weeks ago."

Bayern Munich, who lead group E, are expecting tough opposition from Paris Saint-Germain, who have won only one of three games. "For Paris, it's the last chance, they will try to explode." Thomas Helmer, the Bayern captain, said.

# Dalglish forced to put trust in Tomasson

BY DAVID MADDOCK

IT MIGHT seem heretical to suggest it, but Kenny Dalglish is an amusing, affable character. Outside a small circle of friends, however, it is a closely guarded secret.

The Newcastle United manager has always suffered from a negative image in the media, mostly because he cannot suppress a natural, suspicious instinct. His press conferences can be torture. Yet, for all that, Daiglish has none of the abrasiveness of, for example, Alex Ferguson. When Fergu-son is irked, the whole world knows it. With Dalglish, it is barety detectable, beyond, perhaps, a frostier edge to his taut

Yesterday, looking forward m Newcastle's European Cup Champions' League contest with PSV Eindhoven tonight, he was unsually instructive. Gone was the Siberian silence, replaced by a rare passion in his condemnation of what perceives as an unjust capabilities

attitude that hangs around the club like a bad smell". The odour, you will not be surprised to hear, was generated by the media. There has been a disparaging attitude to-wards his side, he said, despite a reasonable start in the FA Carling Premiership and a better than expected showing in the Champions' League.

We have had trying circumstances and yet performed with pride in adversity," he said. "Look at our results and then say that we are not producing. We best Barcelona won 3-2 at Real Madrid the other night that they are indisputably a great side. They are seven points clear in Spain and that says it all. We drew in Kiev, and Dynamo bear Barcelona 3-0. I think that result was far better than:

we got the credit for. We did lose against PSV, but they are a very good side, too. We came away from Holland with people talking as if they were an easy team to dangerous side and people who say otherwise are just trying to distort our situation."

Yet, for all his passion, there is a pessimism seeping into even the most ardent of Newcastle supporters. Dalglish is right to point to important results in Europe and the Premiership, but most were achieved with the help if Faustino Asprilla. Without him, the team is impotent. The loss of Alan Shearer was a had

could lead the line capably alone. Without him, there is no David Batty and Robert Lee, doubts about Gillespie, Barton and Pistone and Newcastle's squad is severely stretched.

Much responsibility now falls on the shoulders of Jon Dahl Tomasson, the young Dane who scored his first goal for the club on Saturday. That much, at least, was a relief. "I have been under pressure in the last couple of weeks, but not just from the lack of a day. "I have been trying to well. I have always played in midfield before and now I am playing with my back to goal. But I believe in myself in front of goal and I will always give

Eindhoven have their own and De Bilde doubtful, but Dalglish may prove prophetic in his assertion that PSV are a Newcastie will conjour a goal from. Dalglish can not be blamed for the injuries to Rush and Asprilla, but with have sold Ferdinand

Risking Dalglish further, it has to be said that qualification for the quarter-finals is an unlikely prospect, but, as Fornasson said, the team's supporters can almost win a game by themselves and those who witnessed the destruction of Barcelona for 60 magical minutes will not dare to dismiss Newcastle's chances lightly.

# Pick up the phone PICK UP A

staking \$25 or more using Switch, Delta or Solo bank or building society debit cards. \*Free bet is a £10 Correct Score single bet on tonight's Feyenoord v Man. Utd. match. (Please place your bet and make your free bet selection within the same call.) NUNG TRUMY 0800 44 40 40

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# Rioch and Hamilton eye vacancy at Wednesday

BRUCE RIOCH, the former Arsenal manager, and Bryan Hamilton, recently dismissed by Northern Ireland, vesterday expressed an interest in the managerial vacancy at

Sheffield Wednesday.
Rioch, who managed Mid-dlesbrough, Millwall and Bolton Wanderers before spending a year at Highbury. until the arrival of Arsene Wenger 14 months ago, said: I have heard nothing at all from Sheffield Wednesday. but I am interested in going some stage if the job and the people are right. It would have to be at a club that's got the opportunity and the ambition to be successful."

Hamilton, 50, formerly in charge at Tranmere Rovers, Wigan Athletic and Leicester City - where he departed to make way for Pleat in 1987 also said that he was keen to get back into the game.

"I've got to be interested," Hamilton said. "I'm in a position where I'm looking for work. Having lost my job with Northern Ireland, it's made me determined to work at the highest level, but I don't know what the situation is with Wednesday and whether they are inviting applications, although I would hope, bearing

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

in mind I have a lot of experience. I would be one of those under consideration." Bromwich Albion chairman, was surprised at speculation linking his manager, Ray Harford, with the job because Wednesday have yet to show an interest. Harford is believed to be the front-runner to succeed Pleat, whose 29-month reign at Hillsborough ended after Wednesday's 6-1 defeat away to Manchester United consigned them to the



West Bromwich chief executive, John Wile, have all dismissed the conjecture, even though the manager is open to offers because he has

yet to sign a contract. Hale said: "I believe Wednesday want a quick appointment and I think if they were interested we would have heard by now, but there's been nothing. Ray Harford is at the club doing his normal duties and he seems to be happy with us. Anyway, when I mentioned the speculation to him, he just

Hale's dismissive comments were strengthened by the fact that David Richards, the Wednesday chairman. and the club secretary. Graham Mackrell, were in London yesterday, albeit on business unrelated .. to

Hale added: "Obviously, no manager is safe whether he has signed a contract or not, but Ray has got more and-more involved with West Brom over the past few months he has been at The Hawthorns. His heart seems to be in the club. Why would he want to join Sheffield Wednesday when he is getting things right with Albion?"

# MONDAY'S LATE

DR MARTENS LEAGUE Parmier Civision: Worcester 2 St Leonards 0. Cup
Preliminary round, first leg: Dertiord 3
Fisher 5; Newport AFC 3 Winney 1.
FA CAPLISSERS VASS: Post-found
replay: RTM Newcastle 0 Kidegrove 1.
AVCN INSURANCE CONTRIBUTION
First division: Chesse 5 Swindon 2;
Onlord United 1 Milleral 0.

PONTINS LEAGUE CUP: Group five: Barnsley ! York 1. RYTERLINK COPPLESS ALLIANCE Invitation Cup: Oldbury ! Ibstock Wel-line 3.

THE A YOUTH CUP: First round: Roth-erham 0 Bury 1; Enfield 5 Stevenage 1. UEFA UNDER-10 CHAMPIONS/42P: Qualifying group eight: Northern Ireland 1 Crossin 2.

ARGENTINE LEAGUE: Argentinos Ju-istas 3 Estudientes 2. intern 3 Estudiantes 2.

90-HOUS MATCHES: Premier Languer
Trophy: Under-15: Staffordsire 3:
Worcesterchie 2: Midlands divisional
Trophy: Under-13: First round: Wolver-hampton 0 Bridge Hill and Dudley 4
Boodle and Dunthome Cup: Helleybury
1 Bron 3:

1 Ston 3.

WOMEN'N FA CUP: Third-round chauc
Truro City or Swindon Spatines v Berry
Town: Brafield v Southempton; Certifi
County v Portemouth; Blonetch Town v
Loughborough Students or Highfield
Rangers; Carrety Recers v Armold Town
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Newcastle Town; Stockport v Bleckburn
Rovers, Wernbley Mill Hill v Whiteheak;
Brighton or Hamplen v Lengton or
Chelmstord, Three Bridges v Wetford
and Evergreen; Cueen's Park Rangers v
Winnbledon, Leyton Odent v Reading
Royals; Futham v Tottenham Hotspur;
West Ham United v Chariton or Abbey
Rangers; Hendon or Hackney v St
Georges (Eltham) or Surbiton.

LI Ties to be played on November 30.

# Swindon cast net for goalkeeper

County Ground tonight without a recognised goalkeeper. Steve McMahon, the Swindon manager, is even considering using an outfield player in goal for the Nationwide League first division match. Fraser Digby and Frank Talia, Swindon's senior goalkeepers, are unable to play

because of injury. Digby has damaged chest muscles and Talia has knee problems. Steve Mildenhall, who deputised in the 1-0 victory against Portsmouth at Fration Park last Friday, sustained a groin injury during the game and is also unfit.

Although McMahon asked the Football League for an extension to the deadline of noon yesterday to enable him to bring in a goalkeeper on loan, his request was declined. We had a couple of players in the pipeline, but the League, would not extend the deadline," McMahon said. "Quite honestly, I'm very disappointed with their lack of co-operation. In fact, we are inthe process of writing a letter of complaint to them."

Swindon's only available goalkeeper is Anthony Better-

SWINDON Town face the ton, 17, who plays for the club's prospect of playing against youth team. McMahon does not want to risk him but is running out of options. "I haven't a cine what I'm going

> The 1998 World Cup final on July 12 will kick-off at 9pm, the French organising committee announced yesterday. The opening game on June 10 will kick-off at 5.30pm, while all ten World Cup stadioms will have at least one evening match apart, from Bordeaux, for reasons of television camera angles in the setting sun. Each stadium will also have one early-afternoon match.

> First-round matches will kick-off at 2.30pm, 4pm, 5.30pm and 9pm Second round and quarter-final matches will start at either 4.30pm or 9pm. The semi-finals and final will start at

However, in order to optimise television audiences in other time zones. Fifa, the world governing body, may make adjustments and exact kick-off times for the 48 firstround matches will only be announced at the World Cup draw in Marseilles on December 4. The late starts contrast with USA 94, where many matches kicked off at midday.

Football's coming home. Literally.



SQUASH

### Walker's revival bodes well for team

FROM COLIN MCQUILLAN IN KUALA LUMPUR

ENGLAND'S standing for the defence next week of the world team championship rose a few points here yesterday when their captain, Chris Walker, of Essex, halted a personal slump by defeating Paul Johnson, of Kent, 12-15. 15-10, 15-6, 15-7 in a 56-minute first-round match of the World Open championship.

Walker, a 30-year-old with a penchant for flamboyant strokeplay, has lost in every significant first round since reaching the last 16 of the Alahram International in June. For a time yesterday, it seemed that Johnson, a fellow left-hander and a potential replacement for England next week, might extend the barren run to six, but the presence of Neil Harvey, an England selector, in Walker's corner seemed to relax the team captain enough for him to rediscover the athletic volleying that is the foundation of his game.

Harvey's prime responsibility this week is to his personal protege, Peter Nicol, another left-hander but of Scottish descent, who started yesterday with a crisp 32-minute 15-7, 15-8, 15-7 win over

Stephen Meads. The day was, in fact, a British tour de force in the bottom half of a World Open draw that, for the first time in 21 years, is not to be defended by the reigning champion in this case, Jansher Khan, of Pakistan.

Two Weishmen, Alex Gough and David Evans, a qualifier, went through to the second round and Walker was joined by Simon Parke, the England No l, Mark Cairus, the British champion, and Mark Chaloner. Only the No 5 seed, Ahmed Barada, of Egypt, broke the impressive string of British successes by defeating Tony Hands in an hour-long, four-game

Today's session of play features the top half of the first-round draw, with Del. Harris and Peter Marshall leading a five- strong contingent from Britain.

RUGBY UNION: SPONSOR TO SIGN THREE-YEAR DEAL AS ITV CONFIRMS PLAN TO SCREEN ENGLAND

# Five nations countries bank £15m

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

WHILE rugby's leading clubs are staring at a sizeable deficit on this season's trading, the sport as a whole remains the recipient of considerable commercial interest Today, ITV will confirm its plans for the broadcasting of England in-ternationals this season albeit delayed transmissions - and tomorrow the five

nations' championship will become sponsored for the first It is expected that Lloyds

TSB will announce support worth £15 million for the championship over the next three years, a sum that will be divided equally between the five countries. After the temporary rift last year between England and the other three home unions, the agreement will go a long way mwards healing relationships and, possibly, some bruised egos.

cost of some of the game's oldest friends: the Royal Bank of Scotland has supported internationals at Murrayfield since 1982 and the introduction of Lloyds may also conclude the arrangements of two other financial institutions, Irish Permanent and Societé Générale, with Ireland and France respectively. Yet the wave of new money

It will come, however, at the

coming into the game — England alone have reached accords this season with Carlsberg Tetley and Nike will give other potential investors confidence, a feeling that will bolster the cash-strapped Allied Dunbar Premiership clubs as they try to come to terms with the demands of professionalism. Saracens, for example, believe that interest is such that they will break even next season, despite an adverse balance sheet for the past financial year of £2.2 million and a likely deficit this

Saracens, second in the Premiership, have just published their first consolidated accounts, which demonstrate the leap ambitious clubs have had to take in expenditure. Nigel Wray's initial investment of £2.5 million when he purchased the club has received a further El million, but Saracens' own projections, based on gate receipts at Watford of no more than 5,500, suggest that they will used by stop bleeding money - the teams.

year of around £1 million.

phrase of Mike Smith, their chief executive — by 1999.

"We see a future in the game." Smith said. "Corporate revenue has increased by 136 per cent on last year, with over £1 million coming in, and people are already buying hospitality boxes at Watford for next season." Admittedly, Saracens started at a lower base than nearly all their competitors in the first division - hence, for example, the expenditure of £800,000 on last season at Enfield, which ultimately proved fruitless.

Yet, as an example, they cite the difference in crowd figures for their most recent opponents, Bristol: at their old Bramley Road headquarters in 1995-96, they drew 600; at Enfield, they attracted nearly 1,600 and last weekend they pulled in 4,200. Though the attendance figures themselves are relatively small, they represent a huge percentage in-crease which is reflected in season-ticket sales, too.

They plan to launch before the end of the year a £200,000 development scheme that is aimed at taking rugby into the Watford community and using their star players in a "lifestyle" campaign: international players like Philippe Sella, Francois Pieraar and Richard Hill will go into schools and clubs to bear to youngsters the positive mes-

sages of sport.

The wage bill for such players — Saracens employed 86 salaried staff, players, coaches and administrators during 1996-97 - amounted to £1.58 million last year, but Smith contends that the club is not paying inflated wages, adding: It is the only business I have been involved in where have to look after my competitors." That is to say, the first division clubs need to keep each other affoat to

ensure a viable competition. At the bottom of the division. Bristol are no nearer securing their financial future after Monday's annual meeting. Shareholders agreed to remove a clause prohibiting one individual holding more than a 24 per cent stake in the dub and the directors are talking to two firms about possible investment, while contemplating the sale land used by their mini and junior



Lomu is a menacing sight as he steps up the pace in the first training session of the All Blacks' tour yesterday

# England promise to stand by Stimpson

ENGLAND'S management hinted yesterday that Newcastle's decision to put Tim Stimpson on the transfer list will not harm his prospects of playing full back in the forthcoming series of internationals against the southern-hemisphere countries. "It is a personal issue between him and the club, but it won't affect his position with England," a spokesman

Nevertheless, if Stimpson is not pla ing first-team rugby, it will hardly help his prospects. He has first to indicate his recovery from a thigh injury before the XV to play Australia at Twickenham on November 15 is confirmed, probably next Monday, with Newcastle due to play Castres on Sunday in the quarter-finals

of the European Conference. Alex King, the Wasps fly half, who is also recovering from injury, is deter-mined to press his claims for a first start for England against Australia. King, 22, has not played since suffering a minor cartilage tear in the home league defeat by Saracens 21 weeks ago, but he is confident that he will be fit to return for the Heineken Cup quarter-final against

Brive, the holders, at Loftus Road on

"The injury is responding well to treatment. I have the confidence in my own mind that it will be all right and the mental side can be as important as anything," he said.

Louis Luyt, president of the South African Rugby Football Union, with-stood a challenge from Keith Parkinson, of Natal, and Miuleki George, of Border, at the union's annual meeting yesterday and will remain in office for a further two

# Rusedski

infection III TENNIS: Greg Rusedski, the Great Britain No 1, is struggling to be fit for his second-round match in the Stockholm Open tomorrow. Rusedski, who beat Nicklas Kulti, of

fights

Sweden, an Monday to book his place at next week's ATÉ Championships in Hanover, was advised by a doctor to take two days complete rest before his next match, against Lionel Roux, of France. Rusedski said yesterday:

"I have a virus infection. I have spent all day in bed, my head is still hurting and i feel pretty bad. I plan to have another day in bed and see how I feel on Thursday." Tim Henman, the British No 2, will meet Magnus Gustalsson in the second round. The Swede beat Marcos Ondruska, of South Africa, yesterday.

### Breakthrough

HOCKEY: Slough and Southgate will become the first English women's clubs in the 26-year history of the competition to host the A division of the European club championship next April (Cathy Harris writes). Their joint-bid has been accepted by the European Hockey Federation (EHF), whose competitions secretary, Martin Gotheridge, estimated that the clubs will have to raise around £10,000 to stage the event.

### Whirlwind

SNOOKER: Jimmy White required only 58 minutes at Malvern vesterday to whitewash Justin Smalley 5-0 and earn a place in the last 32 of the Benson and Hedges Championship. White, relegated from the game's top 16 at the end of last season, must win the tournament in order to earn an automatic place in the Masters at Wembley next February. Brian Morgan, the holder of the title, also reached the seventh round.

**RUGBY LEAGUE** 

# <sup>5</sup> Goodway calls for more aggression

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

WHILE conceding that there art Spruce. Surprisingly, he is a fine line between aggresshab decided against selecting is a fine line between aggression and indiscipline. Andy Goodway, the Great Britain coach, feels that his side was too tame in defeat against Australia at Wembley. It is a fault that he wants to address before the second British Gas international at Old Trafford on Saturday.

"As well as learning to tough it out mentally, we need to become more physical. I'm not suggesting we go round knocking heads off, but we should be taking the game to them." Goodway, who was never afraid in his playing career to test a referee's tolerance limits, said.

Injuries permitting, Good-way intends to name his team today. Most changes are expected in the pack, which could mean a starting place for Adrian Morley and a first call up for Simon Haughton, with Chris Joynt pushed into the front row to supplement their strong running.

Goodway's options are limited by the continued absence of the injured lestyn Harris, Keiron Cunningham and Sni-

from outside his 21-strong

"We had a good, long talk about bringing people in from outside, but I think we've got to look at all the options in the squad," Goodway said. "We are not panicking. It's a case of looking at the different

combinations." Goodway feels that he can-not call on better players, so it is his job to extract better performances, which puts a big emphasis on the choice at half back and whether to stick with Andy Farrell, who is playing out of his normal loose forward position, and

Bobbie Goulding. Farrell was far from a qualified success at No 6 last Saturday, but he remains probably the best option in that role, although Sean Long should provide backup on the bench. That leaves Goodway the thorny decision of whether to replace Goulding at scrum half with Martin Crompton, who was due to rejoin the squad yesterday after return-ing from holiday.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL NATIONAL LEAGUE (NFL): Kenses City

BASKETBALL NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Char-lotto 112 Mienni 99; Chicago 87 San Antonio 83 gand OTI; Weshington 90 Uteh 86. CLASSIC COLA NATIONAL CUP: Quar-te-Strail disease. London Towers v Manchester Glants; Thomas Valley Tigers v London Leopards; Birningham Bullets v Worthing Buars; Shaffield Sharlss v Leicester Riders.

NOWLOON: Manodite Hong Kong International Classic: Patric Third round: Section Ar Wales (W Matthews and J Hostina) by Victoria Park (R Tie and W S Crang) 42-14; Scotland (D Gourley and G Robertson) by Maleysia (Z Puteh and A Section) 20-15; Augstalis (A Jettey and M Jacobsen) by Christian (C Puteh and A Section) by Christian (J Puteh and A Section) by Christian (J Puteh and A Section) by Christian (J Puteh and J Wong) 20-18; Kowincon CC (J Malbourne and K Walle) by Hong Kong (T Tong and J Wong) 20-18; Kowincon CC (J Malbourne and K Walle) by Hong Kong (T Tiong and J Choice) 22-20; Chemite Internation Cub (S A K Bur, and J S Wessen) 21-13. Section B: New Zealand (B Baldwin and B McNish) by Hong Kong Potics (D Ng and K K Yeung) 32-11; Carsida (J Allien and L Admina) by Hong Kong Potics (D Ng and K K Yeung) 32-11; Carsida (J Allien and L Admina) by Hong Kong Potics (D Ng and K K Yeung) 32-11; Carsida (J Allien and L Admina) by Hong Kong Potics (D Ng and K K Yeung) 32-11; Carsida (J Allien and L Namnedy) 25-12; Zimbatows (M McCarnick and W Curming) by Hong Kong Conceptor Services Department (Lo Studie) of Namned Conceptor Services Department (Lo Studie) of Conceptor (K Kelki and C Internation (Lo Studie) of Conceptor (K Kelki and C Internation (Lo Studie) of Conceptor (La St

CRICKET

Pakistan Golden Jubilee Pakistan v West Indies

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Extrem (b 5, lb 11, w 5) Total (7 wide, 50 owers) 216 M Dillon and \*C A Walso did not but FALL OF WICKETS: 1-24, 2-51, 3-54, 4-56, 5-130, 6-166, 7-204

BOWLING: Wissen Alexin 6-0-35-0, Waqiir Younts: 10-1-42-2; Saqlain Mushing: 10-0-35-3; Shahid Ahlel 8-0-(11-0; Aemir Schell S-1-20-0; Azhar Mehmood 9-1-36-2

PAKISTAN Total: (2 wids, 40.4 overs)

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-34, 2-55

Umpkes: Stave Dunne (New Zeoland) and lan Robinson (Zimbalane)

HOCKEY INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Egypt 1 Eng-land 3 (in Caro). HA MEN'S CUP: Fourth-round deter: Bromley v Beeston; Cannock v Harleston Magples: Centerbour v Guidrott; Chich ester v Sheffeld; Doncester v Bourne-

FOR THE RECORD

Achidge v Horshams: Berichamisted and Hernel Herrested v Setter; Blushart v St. Ives; Baschnel v Bridgnorit; Blushart v St. Ives; Baschnel v Bridgnorit; Blushart v St. Ives; Baschnel v Bridgnorit; Blushart v St. Ives; Brachnel v Basidori, Chambord v Leyland Motors; Crosby v Didebury Greyt; Doncaster v Brachourne; East Grinsted v Kildby Stephen, Eastode v Saling; Epcom v Liverpool; Sernouth v Cition; Herleston Magples v Winchmann NR; Hightown v Herrepsted and Westmindler; Leiosster v St. Alberts, Middleton and Sognor v Sewador; Northampton v Demhern; Otton v Old Loughtomers; Poynton v Tufse Hit; Sterwood v Slough; Southampton v Gloucester City; Strattord v Cartectury; Sunbury v Bedford; Susten Coldied v Inswich; Taurston Vale v Blachour, Trojins v West Winney; Tyredale v Loughborough Students; Welton v Millor Keynes; Wirtholdon v Towcestriane; Wolding v Keltering.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Carolina 5 Vencouver 3: Montreal 6 Dellas 4; N YRangers 2 Edmonton 2 (OT); Philadelphia 5 St Louis 1.

MORLD CUP: Europeen qualifying pool one: Round 8: kely 102 Denner's 3. Pool wo: Round 8: Netherlands 35 Ukraine 13. TENNENTS VELVET. CUP: Third-round draw: Peables v Ayr; Selonk v West of Scotland: Nirross v Reloo, Glasgow Hamis: v Curbernaukt: Blogar v Halead/Jordannit; Currin v Alen Glens; Bennuck v Helstein FP, Howe of File v String County; Dundee HSFP v Stawarts Melville; Boroughnur v Uningstein, Wiglownshire v Walsonians; Melvos v Gensotins; Durlernine v Kricastoy; Mestras College FP v Khenstrock Falons; Gordonians v Preston Lodge FP; Jed-Forest v Lochaber; Haddington v Hawdick Masselburgh v Currinock; 8t Boswells v Edinburgh Academicals; Galla v Hawdick Trados; Datol V Vors; Fallerk v Strathsonick, Alica v Vors; Fallerk v Strathsonick, Alica v

nsi) bt G Racux (Fr) 6-4, 6-3; J van Herckt (Bei) bt H Holm (Swe) 6-3, 6-7, 6-3
MOSCOW: Kremfen Cup: First round: G Kurran (Br) bt S Schelbern (Hot) 6-7, 7-6, 7-6; H Drestmann (Gar) bt A Volkov (Russ) 3-6, 6-4, 7-5; K Carisen (Den') bt M Settin (Russ) 7-5, 6-7, 7-6; B Unitrach (C2) bt A Radiolescu (Ger) 6-4, 3-6, 6-3; P Korde (C2) bt J Termon (US) 4-7-6, 5-3; W Black (Zon) bt P Hearthus (Hol) 7-6-3, 6-4
SANTIAGO, Chille: Chevrolet Cup: First round: M Puerra (Ang) bt G Blanco (Sp) 8-4, 6-3; M Craca (Ger) bt J-A Merin (Sp) 7-5, 6-3; M Craca (Ger) bt J-A Merin (Sp) 7-5, 6-3; M Craca (Ger) bt J-A Merin (Sp) 7-5, 6-3; M Craca (Ger) bt J-A Merin (Sp) 7-5, 6-3; M Craca (Ger) bt J-A Merin (Sp) 7-5, 6-4; T-4 Merin (Sp) 6-2, 6-4; J-A Widoca (Sp) leads N Misseu (Criel) 6-7, 7-5, 2-1, match suspended — Doy 6-2, 6-4; A Pracipar (US) bt I Mejedy (Can 6-3, 6-3, N Taucar (Fr) bt II Dragomer (Porn) 6-3, 6-3, N Taucar (Fr) bt II Dragomer (Porn) 6-3, 5-7, 6-2, 5 Williams (US) bt E Lithoutseue (Russ) 6-3, 7-5, J Kruger (SA) bt A Carlson (Swe) 5-7, 6-3, 6-3.

v RAF Lossemouth.
☐ Ties to be played on November 8 and 9
SCHOOLS MATCH: Queen Bitzabeth,
Barriet 7 St Attarns 39

SQUASH

KLIALA LUMPUR: Men's world champtonship: First round: P Nicol (Scot) bit S
Massés (Eng) 15-7. 15-8, 15-7: D Evans
(Whites) bit C Howsend (Jung) 9-18, 15-11, 1513. 15-10: A Bersda (Egypt) bit T Hande
(Eng) 12-16, 15-9, 15-7; M Craime
(Eng) bit M Heether (Scot) 15-6, 11-5, 15-13,
15-3: S Parks (Eng) bit C ven der Wash (SA)
15-14, 15-4, 15-13, 16-12; M Caims
(Eng) bit (Low (Malaysis) 15-8, 15-11, 15-9.
NEW YORK: Carol Weymuller Open:
Senti-Sinale: S Pto-Genald (Aus.) bit S Wright
(Eng) 2-5, 9-5, 9-2, 9-6; M Mentin (Aus.) bit L
iveng (Aus.) 9-6, 9-4, 9-6.

CRICKET

# Lamb to help out at Northampton

BY IVO TENNANT

IN ADDITION to signing Paul Reiffel, of Australia, as their overseas player and Malcolm, the Derbyshire fast bowler. Northamptonshire have approached Allan Lamb to return to the club in a consultancy role. The aim is that he will coach the young batsmen and be available to help the senior players if

required.
Lamb, a former captain of the county, retired shortly before the 1996 season. Since then, he has developed a corporate hospitality business and teamed up with lan Botham, his former England colleague, against Imran Khan in a costly High Court case and in a two-man show that they took around the

country last winter. "Since Allan retired, our approach, attitude and preparation has not been quite what it was," Steve Coverdale, the chief executive, said. "Our coaches, John Emburey, Nick Cook and Neil Foster, are all bowlers and I am very keen that Allan should rejoin us. I get the impression he has been

surprised by how much he has been missing the game."

Saced Anwar, the Pakistan opening batsman, recaptured his best form with a brilliant century as his side romped to an eight-wicket win over West Indies in the quadrangular one-day tournament in Lahore.

West Indies, restricted to a modest 215 for seven, were powerless to prevent Pakistan racing to 219 for two in 40.4 overs and finished without a point from three matches. having lost previously to South Africa and Sri Lanka.

Saeed and Aamir Sohail added 164 from 175 balls in an unbroken third-wicket partnership. Saeed hit 13 fours in his 108 while Azmir scored 71 from 88 deliveries.

Winston Davis, the former West Indies fast bowler, is likely to be left partially paralysed after falling out of a tree in St Vincent and receiving spinal injuries. Davis, 39 who also played for Northamptonshire, Glamorgan and Tasmania, was cutting branches when the accident

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windon cast no for goalkeeper.

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# Sack race that produces no winners

ing in. Vast groups of starlings wheel in winter flocks. There is the tang of gunpowder in the air. intallible signs of the turning of the year - mark my words, the sacking season is upon us again.

The first manager to be sacked from a Premiership club was David Pleat, who, it seems, got the verdict on the nod from Gerry Francis. And so, like the Tom Lehrer song about the acquisition of nuclear weapons, we sing: Who's next? Who's next?"

The first point is that no one in the bottom half of the table is safe. The second point is that no one in the top half of the table is safe, either. If you finish consistently second and you don't sack your manager, you are telling the world that you are satisfied with second-best.

Roy Evans is one of the most decent men in football, but he is the Liverpool manager and Liverpool keep on not winning the championship. His days are numbered. Arsene Wenger made a majestic start to the season with

Arsenal, but now his side have slipped back. This weekend, they must play Manchester United. Will that be the beginning of the end? Alex Ferguson at Man-

chester United is the only Premiership manager with a safe job. Or is he? His effortless domination of the Premiership has become a bit of a bore. If he draws a blank in Europe yet again, will it be time for a change?
Wild speculation about managerial futures is an

essential aspect of football. If you don't win matches, you always sack the manager as if he were out there letting in goals, missing sitters and awarding dodgy penalties.

Managing a football team is a fantasy among adult men, but it is a very poor one. A football manager has the very opposite of a satisfying job: he has responsibility without power.
It is the chairman that has

it the right way round. When you get it right, take the credit. When it all goes wrong, you always have a manager to sack. There are only two courses of action





Midweek View

open to you. You can either sack the manager, or you can not sack the manager. So, at moments of crisis, when you want to "send a message to the supporters" that, though the seas are rough and the weather vue, you are steering the ship confidently towards haven. you have only one possible course of action - and chairmen always take it. Let's face it, they love doing it.

Sacking is accepted, even required behaviour. No one considers the truth that a sacking says more about the person who made the appointment than it does about the person sacked. Who demands a sacking?

Chairmen sack because the media expects it. The media expects it because the fans "demand" it. The fans demand it because it always Why? It can hardly be that

a sound footballing man such as Pleat becomes an unsound footballing man in the space What does a sacking actu-

ally do? Why, it prepares the way for the next sacking, what else? A new manager comes new-brooming in, has his honeymoon and his play-ers, cheered and filled with desire to impress, play above themselves for a few weeks. And the cycle continues. The players sink back to their accustomed level of performance, bad results bring misery, the team plays below its potential, worse results follow and the manager is sacked and the new one

comes in. Please return to the top of the paragraph. Managers are sacked because it is the custom. nothing else. Sackings are made with no thought for long-term planning, no thought for football. It is invariably a matter of powerconscious chairmen without a thought in their heads mindlessly comforming to the culture of the sack.

ment is an attempt to control the uncontrollable. For a chairman, sacking is the sole medium for control at his disposal. It is not a very effective one, but at least, for the glorious few days of their sacking, the new appointment and the honeymoon, it hands him the illusion of control. For a brief moment, it masks the truth of football, the truth every manager and every chairman knows but dare not admit - that the game is not about managers and chair-men at all. It is about players. Fact: the clubs that sack the most generally achieve the

### **GOLF:** EUROPEAN SEASON NOTABLE FOR ONE MAN'S HEARTWARMING COMEBACK

# Year that Olazabal walked tall

By JOHN HOPKINS **GOLF CORRESPONDENT** 

THE 1997 European Tour began in Queensland, Australia, in January and ended in Jerez, Spain last Sunday. After the equivalent of several circumnavigations of the globe, the season has generated a multitude of images that jostle one another in the mind's

There was the sight of Severiano Ballesteros holding up the Ryder Cup in September. In June. Colin Montgomerie had struggled with his composure after nearly winning the US Open. Early in the season, David Carter was saved from death in Dubai by the decisive action of his colleagues. One early autumn day, Bernhard Langer, in a small town in Germany, went round a good course in good condition in 60. A few weeks later, Joakim Haeggman threatened to heap indignity upon the St Andrews by taking 27 strokes for his outward half on the Old Course.

Yet the most dominant memory of all is of a Spaniard in Dubai in February, beneath a midday sun. Mad dogs and Englishman and all that, but Jose-María Olazábal could not wait to hit his first competitive strokes after a 17month absence because of a medical condition that threatened his career. He walked like a man being buffeted from side to side by a beachfront wind. A cap threatened to fall over his eyes, except that it was stopped from doing so by his ears. Sergio Gomez, his manager, carried a cigar the size of a telegrap pole as he followed his man. He would light it only to celebrate the completion of 18 holes. Nine months earlier, Olazábal could hardly walk; now he was playing like a man who had never been away, birdies on three of the last four holes helping him to a round of 69. Twice this past year, there was the



Olazábal, restored to fitness, in fighting form during the Ryder Cup

rare sight of Olazabal in tears. The held. Odd and heartless indeed would first occasion was in the Canary Islands in March, when he won his third tournament after his comehack: the second at the Ryder Cup two months ago. As is often the case, the sight of a strong man weeping did not diminish the regard in which he is

be anyone unmoved by the sight of Olazabai crying in pleasure after his Ryder Cup team-mates had risen to applaud him and his comeback. "The US Tour has Tiger Woods, but we have a miracle of our own in the return to full health of Olly," Ken Schofield, the

It was the year in which Montgomerie won only two tournaments, yet played well enough overall to capture a record fifth successive Order of Merit. Langer won four tournaments, yet could only come second. It was the year in which Ballesteros, Nick Faldo and Langer all turned 40. And it was the last year in which Montgomerie will devote as much time to competing in Europe as he has in the past.

With Montgomerie less in evidence, will there be a paucity of talent or will the new generation continue to progress until his absence is hardly noticed, much as Faldo has not been missed since he quit Europe?

Montgomerie named Thomas Bjorn, Darren Clarke, Ignacio Garrido, Per-Ulrik Johansson and Lee Westwood as the young men of the future. Of these, Johansson, 30, is the oldest. Westwood, 24, is the youngest and after playing well in the four major championships, in which his average finishing position was twentieth, he is the most promising too. It is to be hoped that they can all reach a position to guarantee themselves places in the World Golf.

Championship events that start in 1999. A year ago, almost to the day, John Paramor, the director of European Tour operations, spoke of having to sew up the dagger holes in the back of my jacket. We need to smarten up our act." A lot of smartening remains to be done. The handling of the Miguel Angel Martin affair remains as indefensible in November as it was at the time. Slow play and poorly-prepared courses, whether because of incompetence, incorrect direction or commercial interests, are just two blights on the face of the Tour. A lack of manners by players towards the hand that feeds

### EUROPEAN ORDER OF MERIT

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### 1963: B Hunt ... 1968: B Devin .. . £13.205 £20,235 . 223,483 1970: C O'Conto . ES1.532 1971; G Player 1972; R Chades 1973; A Jackin 1974; P Costatius 1975; D Hayes ..... 1976: S Ballesteros 239,504 £46,436 £54.348 1981: 8 Langer . . ..... ... £86.141 1984: B Langer 1985: A Lyle 1986: S Selestaros . 6254,711 1990: I Woosnam ... 1991: S Ballesteros 2737.978 . 2230.647 (Includes Order of Mark ovents, and World Matchplay and Alfred Dunhill Cup)

### Answers from page 42.

(c) A migrant agricultural worker, specifically one from Okinhoma forced to leave his farm during the depression of fise 1930s. John Steinbeck, The Grapes of Wrath, 1939: "Okie use' to mean you was from Oklahoma. Now it means you're a dirty son-of-a-bitch."

(b) The Tamil New Year festival acwhich new rice is cooked; hence, a dish of cooked rice. An adaptation of the Tamil ponkul "bolling". "The central rise of the great Pongal festival of South India consists. in cooking new rice, some of which is offered to Ganesa, the remainder being eaten by the family."

SALONFAHIG (a) Fit for (polite) society: socially respectable. The German word. Encounter, 1980: "The Austrian initiative, whatever its underlying motivations, serves to lend an air of cultured respectability to a blood-stained struggle and to render Arafat salonfaining in Western

(c) The basic monetary unit of Hungary from 1927 to 1946. The Hungarian word literally means "ringing". "The Pengo (of 100 Filler) was superseded in August, 1946, by a new currency, the

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE National plc, ber 2294747. | I Bi7+! Kxf7 2 Rc7+ K/B 3 Qd6+ mating.

# A couple's lofty ambitions

The return of the series which really does make you want to push up your sleeves and tackle decorating and DIY where you might have run a mile (or worse, hired a clurary decorator) before. The Williams family, expecting a new baby, have decided to convert their loft... Jucky them to have such a roomy, airy loft to start with. Once glass hricks have carved out a hathroom area, the windows have been fitted and colourful furniture moved in against the unpainted bricks, who wouldn't want to sleep there? An ongoing theme will be the gradual renovation of a 1930s semi in Bristol and a competition to find the Junior Decorator of the Year. This begins with 15-year-old Philip Cooper, a real little Commin in the making.

### Modern Times: Bystanders BBC2 9.00pm .

"A man jumped out of a car after a young woman. I could see the fear in her eyes and I just walked away. Today I still feel guilty I7 years on." "I saw my husband on the floor and three young women jumping all over him — then they started punching me until I was unconscious. The regulars just stood and watched." These are two of the testaments of people involved in violence: a bystander who did nothing and Elaine Byglin, a pub landlady whose costomers did nothing. One still bemused interviewer retails being degraded and humiliated by a gang of thugs on a busy train. "Don't look for anyone to help you. Nobody does these days." Nicholas O'Dwyer's unsettling film examines the truth of this, and although some heroes and heroines do emerge, the results are a sad heroines do emerge, the results are a sad indicament of the way we live today.

### Witness: The Clinic Channel 4, 9.00pm

As part of the ongoing Who's Choice? strand marking the 30th anniversary of the Abortion Act, this gentle film, studded with statistics, should tell you everything you need to know about having a termination. Ethically it does not take sides although the anti-abortion lobby is given a kind of platform when protesters (all male) are seen harassing pregnant women going into the clinics



Victim Elaine Byglin (BBC2, 9.00pm)

and praying on their knees "for the soul of the unborn child." None of the women interviewed has taken termination lightly — all have had good reason, particularly one devastated victim of rape. The programme films in three private clinics around the country (average cost £350) and notes that although "one in three women." will undergo a termination at some point in her life, a feeling of guilt often lingers in spite of counselling before and after this demonstrably minor operation.

### BBC2, 11.15pm

Reinventing The Wheel

Radio 4, 9.00pm

Somehow the programme makers have persuaded the Home Office and the Scottish Prison Service not to mention various custodial set ups in America to grant them unprecedented access and have also found prisoners and former-prisoners in act as interviewers, guides and presenters. Each week a different prison (Doncaster tonight) fields a different inmate to introduce it. Governors, guards and probation officers are interviewed — problems with a bulliance drug taking and make and probation officers are interviewed — problems such as bullying drug taking and male prostination get an airing. The former governor of HMP Cookham Wood, Collette Kershaw, tackles Sheriff Joe Arpaio about his soul-destroying methods in an Arzona lock-up, poet and ex-con serior and ex-con lock-up.

This excellent series on the history of technology is in serious danger of making science popular, though come to think of it, popularity and the size

though come to think of it, popularity and the size of the Radio 4 audience at this time of the night probably do not fit in the same servence. Tonight the programme demonstrates that however much some of us may be moan marketing and the exploitation of inventions, they have been around for a long time. James Watt (of the steam engine) and his partner Matthew Boulton became rich because they took up Boulton's idea that the engine should be patented for 25 years, thus bringing them large sums in royalties. Alexander Graham Bell was similarly conscious of the gains to be made from the telephone, which he patented. Peter Barnard

The Directors Radio 2, 10.00pm

Confession time: I think Woody Allen makes terrific films but I wish he would not appear in them. That voice has reached a stage of development where it comes across as a parody of itself. And if Alien is to be taken at his word in this interview for what is proving to be a most interview for what is proving to be a most interesting series, just about anyone could play the leads because allegations that his obsession with New York Jewish angst is related to the fact that he lives in New York is Jewish and angst-ridden are quite unfounded. Hard to credit, isn't in Still. Allen is very convincing tonight on the craft of directing and he gives some insights into how he handles a cast and the extent to which the cast drives the

Jo Whitey, Includes Newsbest 2:00pes Merk Redolffe 4:00 Dave Pearce 6:15 Newsbest 6:39 Evening Session 8:30 Trade Update 3:40 John Peel, Includes a session by Hitcher 18:30 Mary Anne Hobbs 1:00sm: Cive Warnin 4:00-Ciris Moyles

### RADIO 2

8.00em Serah Kennedy 7.30 Wogan 8.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 David Asronovitch 1.30em Debbie Thrower 3.06 Ed Stewert 5.05 Johnnie Waller 7.80 Nick Barraciough 8.09 Folk on 2 9.00 Mr Blue: The Tom Paidon Story 1/22 9.30 The Gene 3.00 Newsonre (5.5) 12.08 The Directors. See Choice 11.50 Flichard Allmain. 12.08 Fine State Madden 3.00 Nick Leafer 1.1

6.09cm The Breeklast Programme 9.09 Nicky Campbell 12.00 Midday with Meir 2.09pm Ruscoe on Five 4.09 Netionwide with Julian Wortcker 7.00 News Estra 7.30 John Inverdale's Football Night. Newcastle United tale on PSV Endfower et St. James Perk and Menchester United meet Feyerboard in Rotterdam in the Champione Lasgue, Including National Lottery live 10.60 Littlejohn 11.00 News Edita 12.00 After Hours 2.00em Up All Night 5.06 Morning Reports

5.00mm Jeremy Ctark 7.00 Chris Evane 10.60 (FM) Robin Barks (AM) Graham Dene 1.60pm (FM) Nick Abbot (MM) Nicky Home 4.00 Russ 'n' Jono 7.00 (FM) Paul Coyte (AM) Calvan Jones 18.00 Mark Forrest 2.60mm Richard Porter

6.30mm Paul Ross and Carol McGiffen 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lonsine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Peter Deeley 7.00 Anns Resburn 9.00 James Whale 1.00mm Ian Collins

6.00ara Nevaday 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 Off the Shalit The Colour of Blood 7.30 Meritien Ukis.300 News 8.10 Pause for Thought 8.15 Concert Hail 9.00 News, News In German (648 only) 9.06 World Business Report 9.15 The Farming World 8.30 Science File 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.00 Newsday 19.30 One Planst 11.00 Newsday 11.30 Sports International 12.00 News 12.05pan World Business Report 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Seeing Stars 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 Newshour 2.00 News 12.05 Cutlook 2.30 Megentix 3.00 News; News in German (648 only) 3.05 Sports Roundup 3.15 Participance 3.30 Elegyworsan, 4.05 News 4.15 From Our Own Correspondent 4.30 The World Today, News in German (648 only) 4.46 Britain Today 5.00 Europe Today 5.90 World Business Report 9.45 Sports Roundup 8.00 Newsday 8.30 The World Today in Common (648 only) 4.46 Britain Today 5.00 Europe Today 5.90 World Business Report 9.45 Sports Roundup 8.00 Newsday 8.30 The World Today 9.30 On Sersen 10.00 Newsday 13.30 The World Today 9.30 On Sersen 10.00 Newsday 13.30 The World Today 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 News 11.05 Outlook Today 9.30 On Screen 10.00 Newscleek 10.30 The World Today 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 News 11.05 Cutlook 11.30 Multimack X-Prese 12.00 Newscleek 2.30em From Our 1.30 Multimack X-Prese 12.00 Newscleek 2.30em From Our 1.30 Newscleek 1.30 Ornitious 2.00 Newscleek 1.30 Ornitious 2.00 Newscleek 1.30 Ornitious 2.00 Newscleek 1.30 Sworld Business Report 3.16 Sports Roundous 2.30 Jamesy to the Centre of the Atom 3.46 History Today 4.80 Newscleek 4.30 Europe Today 5.00 Newscley 5.30 Europe Today

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6.00em Alen Mann. Includes Brenidest Beroque and the Morning Merch 9.00 Henry Kelly. Includes Michael Baroque and the Morning Merch 9.00 Henry Kelly. Includes Michael Baroque and Record of the Week leaturing the best of the new releases 1.00pm Listener Request Hour with Jane Jones 2.00 Concerto. Brahms (Double Violin Concerto in A minor) 3.00 Jarnie Crick. Includes Two in a Row, and Three Steps to Seven 7.00 Newsnight with John Bruming 7.30 Sonata. Handel (Recorder Sonata in C) 8.00 Evening Concert. Hendel (Nustcior the Royal Fireworks); Ravel (Pleno Concerto for the Left Hend); Stravinsky (The Probled); Tchellowsky (1812 Overture) 10.00 Michael Meppin. Includes 11.35 Noctume 2.00em Concerto (r) 3.00 Mark Califities

6.00em-On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Includes Handel (Occasional Suite in 13); Delius (Molin Sonata No 1); Gabriel (Hic est Pilus Deli); Saint-Saèrs (Calc Concerto No 1 in A minor); Wagner (Tristan und Isolde, Prelude to Act 1); Strauss (Coc Concerto)

9.00 (Idoming Cellection, with Peter Hobdey, Viveldi (Concerto in A); Chopin (Four Mazurtas); Granados (Plano Trio); Ravel (Bolero)

10.00 (Insulcal Encounters, with Mark Rowlinson. Novak (The Lovers, Stovak Suite); Schubert (Des Lied im Grissen; Des Zügengkörldein); Schubert (Des Lied im Grissen; Des Zügengkörldein); Schubert (Des Lied im Grissen; Des Zügengkörldein); Shepperd (In Martus Tuse 1); Telemann (Concerto in D for ihree trumpets); Gerard Schumerm (Concerto for Orchestra); Tallis (Dum Transisset a 5); Mozert (String Quintet In C)

12.00 Composer of the Weel: Vaughen Wallers

1.00pra The Reaflo 3 Lanchtime Concert. Live from the Wigmore Hall, London, Nelson Goemer, plano, Mozert (Farthey in D minor); Beatmas (Seven Fantasies); Lisat (Harmonies du Soir; Chasse-Neige; Mazeppa, Transcendental Studies)

2.00 Michael Revenedos, Live from Ripon Cathedral

5.00 for Tuse. Seen Raillory laiks to Jonatine Dove, the composer of the year's ET corranission, as he prepares for the premiere of his new work this

week
Performence on 3. A concert from the Orchestra
of the Age of Entightenment's series of music from
Mozert's Vierna, given last year as part of its BBC

residency at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol.
Chi-Chi Nevanoku, double bass, Orchastra of the
Age of Enlightanment under Frans Bruggen.
Haydn (Symphony No 59 in A. Fire); Disersoon'
(Double Bass Concerto in E flat); Mozart
(Symphony No 41 in C. Jupiter)

9.00 Postscript; Ulysses (Sounding the Cantury). A
celetration of the 75th anniversary of the
publication of James Joyce's Ulysses, The
composer Luciano Berio reflects on Joyce's est,
and the artist Tom Phillips discusses Joyce's eye
(3/5)

and the exist Tom Philips discusses Joyce's eye (3/5)

3.20 Oxforidge Organa. Gillian Weir returns to the chapel of Clare College, Cambridge, where she used to play shortly after the two-manual classical organ was built by the German firm of Von Beckerath in the 1970s. Bustehude (Toccata in F); Frescobaldi (Aria Detto Balletto); Rossi (Toccata No 7 in D minor); Honegger (Fugue); Anton Heiller (Suite in Festo Corporis Christi)

10.08 Ensemble. Penny Gore introduces a recitar by Gerham Scott, plano. Afozart (Frano Sonata in A); Franck (Prelude, Chorate and Fugue)

10.45 Night Waves. Hermione Lee discusses Robert Wilson's return to London's West End with a theetrical version of Marguerite Duras's La Malacie de la Mort

11.30 Composer of the Weet: Durseak (r)

12.30 mm. Jazz. Notes. Highlights from a concert given by the Alan Elsdon All-Star Jezz Band. Introduced by Digby Fairweither

1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

5.55em (LW) Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Entering 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.36 Today 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Minimum in Times columnist

Today 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.85 Westher 9.00 News 9.05 Mildweek, with the Times columnist Libby Purves and her guest, the American travel wher Bill Bryson 10.00 News, The New Pack of Germany. Caroline Wyatt explores the stereotype of the German people as being serious and humouriess (4/4) 18.00 (LW) Daily Service 19.15 (LW) Oathy Service 19.15 (Service 19.15 (Servic

Film Festivel as new programmers take over the Film Festival as new programmers take over the planning
4.45 Short Story: Man of His Times, by Frank White, read by Stephen Thome (r)
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weether
6.00 Shi O'Clock News
6.30 Windowsin. Llone Kalleway chairs the second regional heat of the wildfile quit in Liverpool (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Face the Facts. John Waitd investigates
7.45 Covwestations with Strangers. A sarles in which people tak openly about themselves to Robert Hoberson
8.30 People December 10 Medicine 10 Medici

people talk openly about themselves to Robert
Roberson

8.30 Poetry Bengi ten McMillen hosts an evening of
verbal fireworks for Bondire Night from the
Roadhouse in Manchester

8.00 Relevanting the Wheel, See Choice (3/4)

9.30 Keleidoscope (7) 9.59 Westher

10.08 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig

19.45 Book at Bedtiner Laughter is the Dark, by
Viacimir Nabokov, read by David Horovich (8/10)

11.00 The Shuttleworthe, with Graham Fellows (6/8)

11.15 Grievous Bodilly Radio. The correctly series from
Jon Holmes and Andly Hurst, With Peter
Sessinowicz, Emme Clarke and Miles Chequer

(5/6)

11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament

11.30 (LM) Today in Parliament 11.30 (Fill) My Life as a Car. Phil Daniels stars in Mark

Maington's comedy series (5/6) (r)

12:00 News 12:30en The Late Book: Planny Boy.

Gary Pital reads Shyam Selvadura's story (3/10).

12:48 (149) Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE, RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4: RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.8. LW 198- MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE, MW 648, LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM: FM 100-102. VIRION RADIO, FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1218. TALK RADIO, MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and Jehn McNamera.

NEW YORK WATER

# Lady and gentlemen, you've been framed

Sooner or later somebody was going to remember about "lambs" and "slaughter". The only real question was whether it would be the male sex or Gillian DuCharme, headmistress of Benenden. Last night, both waited patiently for the nice. smooth-talking documentary makers to cut off their heads.

The men, bless em, were all puppy-dog eagerness. Told that this was their chance to say what they really meant about women drivers, they rather sweetly be-lieved it. Cutting Edge: Women Drivers (Channel 4) was clearly going to be a treat.

"What I don't understand," said one, his elbow assuming the approved driver-door position for advanced philosophising, "is why women's insurance is so cheap when they cause all the accidents." A lot of other chaps nodded their agreement. The trouble with women, began another from that

that's no good out here. I suppose that's why they don't fight wars it's like a war out here." That was certainly the way he drove. Whether women fight wars or

not (hasn't it changed recently?) was really neither here nor there. What they do make is very good documentaries, as Ella Bahaire showed. Hers was a film very much in the lightweight spirit of this new Cutting Edge series, which appears to have carried on where BBCl's Driving School left off. Nothing sensational, nothing that requires months of investigation, just a documentary series

driven by a single thought how many people can we get to watch? Bahaire's first priority was to entertain. If that meant some of her action was modestly staged (at one point I thought she had Paul Whitehouse playing a London cabbie) then so be it, that is the

haven of reason, the white van, is that they're the gentler sex. "And documentaries. But she also managed to be interesting, if not necessarily convincing, about why upper-middle-class mothers feel safer doing the school run in fourwheel-drive Jeeps, and why anonymity is a key component of male road rage. Well, think of the shame if anybody we knew saw us.

ost of all, however, it was a chance to have a go at men. She had the

statistics, showing that men were responsible for at least 90 per cent of everything (men, of course, already knew that). She had Lee and his white vanload of testosterone. And she had a pet psychother-apist to reveal that male behaviour behind the wheel came down to "fear of castration". Her closing shot of Justin, a blow-up male passenger doll, deflating was deliciously apposite. The male sex did not have to Matthew Bond

wait long for revenge, although even the toughest among them may not have had the stomach for Back to the Floor (BBC2). This was going to be vicious, as its innocent victim already had an inkling. "I feel just like a sacrificial lamb going to the slaughter," said Gillian DuCharme as she began a week of working as a cover teacher at an East London comprehensive. And this was just morning assembiy, her English and French lessons were still to come. Suddenly the leafy and very expensive the film was certainly no advertranquillity of Benenden seemed a

long way away.
At times, Adam Wishart's film was almost too painful to watch. DuCharme ("I haven't met many DuCharmes," observed the comprehensive's headmaster) emerged as game and magnificently honest when her week on the wild side ended, to all intents and purposes, in failure. "If anyone got wrong it was me, not them. But they [Class 91] didn't help."
But DuCharme also emerged as

naive, and not just in entrusting her reputation to a fly-on-theblackboard film crew. "I didn't know whether you'd be black or white," she laughed as she met the Forest Gate headmaster. "Or Indian," she added as a broad-minded afterthought, Later she would interrupt taking the register to ask a pupil if he was from Nigeria. The

tisement for comprehensive teaching despite the passionate but rarely heard beliefs (it may have been wicked editing, but DuCharme appeared immensely fond of the sound of her own voice) of the Forest Gate staff. Teaching an unstreamed class of 30, including pupils with special needs. appeared to be an exercise designed to stretch just one individual - the teacher.

ut nor was it much of a Commercial for private edu-cation. Anybody who believes that a school where the fees are £14.000 a year is a "microcosm of society" really ought to have the good sense not to say so in the middle of a East London school struggling to get by on an annual budget of £1,400 per pupil. By one of those strange tele-

vision coincidences, the headmaster in Underworld, played by Owen Brenman in Channel 4's new comedy drama, bore a truly remarkable resemblance to the Forest Gate headmaster. James Fleet, however, playing William Smith, the customary commonroom antihero, bore no resemblance to DuCharme. He settled a noisy classroom with a stage whisper, gently rebuked an Asian pupil for wearing trainers ("don't tell me, it's a central tenet of Islam") and drove home in his 2CV to discover that his young wife had left him and stolen his belongings.

Andy Hamilton's script was at times very funny, at others just a little on the slow side. But most of all, at least on the evidence of this opening episode, his mix of the suburban with the surreally sinister bears a really uncanny resemblance to Alan Plater's The Beiderbecke Affair. Still, if Plater doesn't mind ...

### BBC1

6.00am Business Breekfast (69582) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (64940) 9.00 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (1) (5908650) 9.25 Style Challenge Four librarians from Bristol (5927785)

9.50 Kilroy (i) (5225817) 10.30 Change That in Sheffield (4533619) 10.55 The Really Useful Show Featuring life-long complainer David Welsh (7212389)

11.35 Real Rooms A bathroom in Bath

12.00 News (I) and weather (6695921) 12.05pm Call My Bluff (9416619) 12.35 Going for a Song (2621018) 1.00 News (r) and weather (74327) 1.30 Regional News (T) (84735230): 1.40 The Weather Show (59293495) T-45 Neighbours (T) (97146360)

2.10 Quincy (r) (2307389) 3.00 World on a Plate Food preservation

3.30 Playdays (r) (8566853) 3.50 ChuckleVision (r) (8553389) 4.10 Get Your Own Back (T) (8821151) 4.35 Out of Tune (T) (1182853) 5.00 Newstound (T) (5823476) 5.10 Blue Peter (T) (9774476) 5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (716056) 6.00 News (1) and weather (563)

6.30 Regional News (T) (143)

MONED YEAR!

CLASSIC IN

7.00 Face Value Finasteride; a "wonder cuer" for baldness; paying up to £300 a day to be taken shopping; detox diets (1) (6747) 7,30 Tomorrow's World Jez Nelson reports from Singapore on a nursary which introduces toddlers to the latest computer technology. Plus, the perfect shifter dog in Australia (T) (327)

8,00 Crime Best Martyn Lewis delves into the

(108414). 8.45 Points of View (1) (198037)

9.29 National Lottery Update (626921) 9.30 Absolutely Fabulous Patry's sister pays

a visit (r) (T) (14360) . F10,00 The X Files: Terms (2/2) Mulder escapes the Russian guiag but Scully refuses to reveal his whereabouts to the

higher authorities (1) (928259). 10.45 Full Circle with Michael Palin (r) (T) (888292) WALES: 10.45 A Touch of Classics (480698) 11.15 Full Circle with Michael Palin (866230) 12.05em Welsh Questions (1429896) 12.35 The Richard Dimbleby Lecture (7341235) 1.20 FILM:

A Time of Destiny (907761) 3.10 Ne and weather (66316964) 11,35 The Richard Disnbleby Lecture Jonathan Dimbleby introduces Lord Noten, who reflects on the success of his committee in rooting out sleeze in Parliament (905853)

12.20mm A Time of Destiny (1988) with William Hurt, Timothy Hutton and Melissa Leo. Second World War chama about two Gls whose close friendship is leoperdised by tragedy and revenge. Directed by Gregory Nava (981273) 2.10 Weather (9960885)

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### BBC2 6.00am Technology: Given Enough Rope (80563) 6.30 Aniware: Computers in the Arts (35940)

(493253) 8-40 18ies of Aesop (9033334) 8-45 The Record (9398679) 9-10 Whet? Where? When? Why? (1698817) 9-25 English Express (2513834) 8-46 Words and Pictures (4823308) 10-00 Teletuboles (26232) 10-30 Numbertime (8662227) 10-45 Ceta' Eyes (7117132) 11-00 Annund Scotland (1852056) 11-20

12:30 Working Lunch (32766) 1.00 Neddy (r) (72265178) 1.10 The Art and Antiques Hour (6766292) 2.10 Going, Going, Gone (96419259) 2.35 Really Useful Show (3788679) 2.46 News

6.60 Star Treic The Next Generation (f) (T)

7.36 Black Sritain Special Investigation into the murder of a Cardiff woman in 1952

8.00 Gary Rhades New series; Alderney mussels glazed with older and leeks; roest chicken and bacon, choosis benzna bread pudding (T) (3037)



Anne McKevitt in the loft (8.30pm)

Interior design show (T) (5872) An exploration of an ethical

dilemma (T) (643360)

(117056)

11,55 Weather (835785) 12.00 The Midnight Hour (T) (12438)

signing) (9282817) 7.15 Teletubbles (r) (4379360) 7.40 Smuris' Adventures (r) (2653501) 8.05 The Really Wild Show (2240698) 8.30 Penny Crayon (493253) 8.40 Tales of Aesop (9033834)

Geography Programme (3726018) 11,40 Revista (3664835) 11.56 Quinze Minutes Plus (1121495) 12.18pm Science in Action (81812[1] ...

(3778292) 2.45 Westminster (4062650) 3.55 News (8593292) 4.00 Ready, Steady, Cook (376) 4.30 Through the Keyhole (r) (1181124) 4.55 Esther. Shopeholics (9939679) 5.30 Today's the

6,45 Stiders (1) (789105)

which led to the hanging of Somalian seamen. Mahmoud Mattan, asking whether an innocent man went to the



Home Front Tessa Shaw introduces a new series of the Modern Times: Bystanders

9.50 The Rugby Club Last in series (1)

18.30 Newsnight (T) (427768)

Prison Weekly New series offering an insight into its behind bers (1) (478853)

11.45 10x10 A woman is pregnant after an angelic encounter (671414)

12.30em Learning Zone: Salty Gunnett (9102902) 12.45 Architecture (3991631) 1.35 Church of Santa Maria del Miracoll, Venice (8897896) 2.00 English Time (56693) 4.00 Italianissimo (32273) 5.00 Nursing (20032) 5.30 Nursing (13167).

6.00em GMTV (4470940) 9.25 Supermarket Sweep (1) (5903105) 9.55 Regional News (6420834) 10.08 The Time, the Place (20018) 10.30 This Morning (T) (48706679) 12.20pm Regional News (6609124)

12.30 News (T) and weather (2640143) 12.55 Shortland Street (2625834) 1.25 Home and Away (T) (73290637) 1.50 Quisine (T) (97154921) 2.20 Vanessa(T) (96486921) 2.50 The Fashion Police. An expectant mother is guided through the maze of maternity wear (1) (8068495)

3.20 News (T) (8378853) 3.25 Regional News (8377124)

3.30 Tota TV (3292872) 3.40 The Parkies (1581124) 3.50 The New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh (r) (8755501) 4.20 Nes's Art Attack Scrapbook (T) (6969673) 4.45 Sebrina the Teenage Witch (T) (1173105) 5.10 WALES: Yan Can Cook - The Best of

5.18 No Naked Flames - The Work Experience (9236327)

5.40 News (1) and weather (975872) 6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (733259) 6.25 Regional Weather (695650) 6.30 Regional News (T) (211)



McKay and Spire (7.00pm)

7.08 Emmerdale Sarah (Alyson Spiro) tells Rachal (Glanda McKay) what she thinks of her (4143)

7,30 Uefa Chempions' Leegue —Livel Bob Wilson presents coverage of the match between Feyencord and Manchester United (T) (48695150)

NB: Subsequent programmes are subject to delay or alteration

9.45 Coronation Street The pressure is for their wedding (T) (484414)

10.15 News at Ten (T) National Lottery result and weather (476495) 10.45 Regional News and weather (725414)

10.55 WALES: Whodurent? The Strange Case of Dr William Parry (978143) 10.55 Uefa Champtons League Highlights Newcastle and PSV Enchoven (518921) 11.25 WALES: Champions' Leegue Highlights (572389)

12.25em Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (5863761) 1.00 Real Stories of the Highway Patrol

1.20 Don't Forget Your Bucket and Spade from Tauriton to Minehead (6258341) 2.20 Jones and Jury (r) (7466148)

2.40 Ueta Champions' Lasgue (477051) 4.20 Sound Sites (40973612) 4.35 The Time, the Place (r) (93004780) 5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (57186)

### CENTRAL As HTV West except:

12.54pm Air Watch (19479037) 12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (2625834) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9236327) 5.59-6.00 Air Watch (457327) 6.25-7.00 Central News (115786)

11.55 Film: There's a Girl in My Soup (574563)1,45am in Focus (7695877) 2.30 TTV Sport Classics (6870693) 2.35 Champions' League (205761)

# 5.20 Asian Eye (9678148)

4.20 Central Jobfinder '97 (5540506)

As HTV West except: 12.20pm-12.30 [fluminations (6691105) 12.55 Home and Away (7629495) 1.20-1.50 Emmerdale (79729495) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9236327) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (37211)

11.55 Beedle's About Late at Night (862679)

As HTV West except 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9236327) 5.00 Meridian Tonight (259) 6,30-7.00 Put it to the Test (211) 11.55 Bevond Reason (862579) 5.00em Freescreen (57186)

As HTV West except:

12.19pm Anglie Air Wetch (6603940) 12,55-1.25 A Country Practice (2625834) 5,10-5,40 Shortland Street (9236327) 6.23 Anglia Weather (608679) 6.25-7.00 Anglia News (115786) 10.44 Anglia Air Watch (702563)

# Starts: 7.00am The Big Breekfast (57650)

9.00 Yagolion (484327) 11.30 Powerhouse (4747) 12.00 Sessme Street (16230) 12.30cm Ricki Lake (27834) 1.00 Slot Meithrin (66961786) 1.15 Tic Toc (75416691) 1,30 Jump (44741650)

1.50 Film: A Ticket to Tomehawi 3.30 Collector's Lot (389)

4.00 Hitmen-to-One (124) 4,30 Day Pearson: Routes Around the 5.00 5 Pump (8277969) 5.15 Piel (5828921) 5.30 Countdown (360)

6.00 Newyddion (166563) 6.10 Heno (542105) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (814018) 7.25 Plennio (189105) 8.00 Gwalth Cartrel (8105) 8.30 Newyddion (5740) 9.00 Prime Suspect (3124) 10.00 Brookside (353921) 10,35 Babylon 5 (530143)

11.30 Cybill (40872). 12.00 Under the Moon (4010506) 4,30em Chinese Football (79896) 5.00-5.30 Screaming Reels (55728)

### CHANNEL 4

7.00 The Big Breakfast (57650) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (5/650)
9.00 Schools: Making Sense of Science (4786) 9.30 Good Health (T) (4813921)
9.45 Book Box (T) (4818476) 10.00
Stage Two Science (T) (9195261) 10.15
Rat-a-Tat-Tat (3367312) 10.30
Geographical Eye (T) (2730921) 10.50
Stop, Look, Listen (T) (8982785) 11.00
First Edition (3740698) 11.15 The Mix (T)

(3723921) 11.30 Powerhouse Political magazina (4747) 12.00 Sesame Street (16230) 12.30pm Light Lunch (20650) 1.30 Gardens Without Borders (r) (84719292) 1.45 Earthscape A wildlife short (59285476)

1.50 Pink String and Sealing Wax (1945, b/w) Googie Withers and Gordon Jackson in a thriller set in 1890s Brighton. A publican's wife persuades a besotted young man to help to murder her husband. Directed by Robert Harner

3.30 Collector's Lot (1) (389) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (1) (124) 4.30 Countdown (1) (1178292) 4.55 Rickl Lake (1) (9923747) 5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (380)

6.00 The Coeby Show Diane turns to Clair for advice (r) (1) (501) 6.30 Rossenme Becky takes Darlene to party (r) (T) (853)

7,00 Channel 4 News (T) (588327) 7.50 Whose Choice?: Mixed Feelings A man in his late forties regrets that a relationship 20 years ago ended in an

abortion (513037) 8.00 Brookside Will Jacqui accept Berry's offer? Sinbed discovers the truth about Christian and Rachel (T) (8105)



The Dipple family (8.30pm)

8.30 The Real Holiday Show Three more camcorder revelations, presented by Gaby Roslin, including a Scotsman's a couple attempting a reconciliation in the French Alps; and 50-year-old twins celebrating their birthday by cruis around the Canary Islands (T) (5740)

Whose Choice?: Witness --The Clinic A documentary that goes behind the scenes at three abortion clinics (T) (3124)

10.00 A le for Accident The reality behind crazy driving. First shown in the Cutting Edge series (T) (r) (6211) 11.00 Whose Choice?: A Mixed Blessing Four women take an amplocentesis tes

An update of a documentary first shown in The Decision series last year (T) 12.00 Under the Moon Sports magazine

(4010506) 4.30am Chinese Football (r) (79896) 5.00 Screaming Reels (r) (T) (55728) 5.30 Scottish Writers A.L. Kennedy (r) (T)

### CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite.

Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge, Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: 10.92075 GHz, sound: 7.02 and 7.20 MHz

CHANNELS JULI

6.00am 5 News Early (2945921)

7.30 Milkshake (4608563) 7.35 USA High (6009414) 8.00 Havakazoo (r) (2792619) 8.30 WideWorld The work of two American minimalist artists, Richard Serra and Robert Smithson (14/15) (7647560)

9.00 Espresso Consumer magazine (2997766) 10.00 Exclusive (8094018) 10.30 Treasure Islands (r) (T) (3247704) 11.00 Leeza Chat show (7642872) 11.50 Double Espresso (94826872) 12.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (9542196)

12.30pm Femily Affairs (r) (T) (8839105) 1.00 5 News Update (61145871) 1.05 Sunsat Beach (T) (3628679) 2.00 5's Company (8696747)

3.30 O.S.S. (1946, bw) starring Alen Ladd. A Second World War drama about an elite team parachuted into occupied France just before D-Day. Directed by inving

5.30 Whittle Audience perticipation quiz show

6.00 100 Per Cent Game show without a host 6,30 Family Affairs Pete discovers that Maria has changed the locks (T) (3064292)



Seel survivor (7.30pm)

7.30 Song of the Seel: What Kitled the s? The story of the sherp reduction in the seal population around Britain a

decade ago (T) (3060476) 8.00 Instant Gurdens William Van Hage and his team begin the first stage of the transformation of Pam and Ken Brownbill's garden (5671414)

8.30 5 News (1) (5650921) 5.00 A Fight for Jenny (1986) sterring Lesley Anne Werren and Philip Michael Thomas. A drama about a couple whose inter-

provokes prejudice. Directed by Robert Greenwald (T) (79788414) 10.50 Not the Jack Docherty Show With

Greham Norton (4202853) 11.45 Prisoner: Cell Block H Doresn returns

12.35am Live and Dengerous Includes American college lootbell and basketball (32753419) 4.35 The Streets of San Francisco: Deed

### Air Gang wartere breaks out (r) (T) (7715341) 5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (2978631)

the Moon (4517679) 12,00 Endangered Esperanza (3732525) 12,30em The Eagle and the Snake (5074506) 1,00 Close

4.00pm Vistnam, the Ten Thousand Day War (7833785) 5.00 The Lost Ark (2839756) 6.00 Ancient Mysteries; Astrology (1894358) 7.00 Biography: Alexandra (880188) (2729143) 8.00 Close

Win with Prize Time twice an hour 5.00pm Cross Wis (8785) 5.30 Say the Word (3969) 6.00 Family Fortunes (3582) 6.30 Catchphress (4834) 7.15 The \$64,000 Cuestion (\$02360) 8.00 Spit Second (\$08018) 8.30 Move on Up (3476) 3.15 Winner Takes All (296211) 10.00 Treasure Hunt (98817) 11.15 White (283747) 12.00 Say the Word (36070) 12.30mm Heat to Hart (21047) 1.30 The Big Valley (20302) 2.30 Big Brother Jake (35790) 3.00 My Two Dieds (\$5693) 3.30 Where I Live (24070) 4.00 Spowy Fiver: The McGregor Sags (47167) 5.00 Shopping (86831)

8.00em Tiny LMng 9.001 Dream of Jeannie 9.30 Gordon Ellott 10.10 Jerry Springer 11.00 Young and the Restless 11.50 Brook-side 12.20pts Why Me? 1.00 Tempesti

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

CHALLENGE TV

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see Vision. published on Saturday

SKY 1

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SKY 1
6.00xm Morring Garry (868550) 9.00 Regis and Kafrie Lee (39853) 10.00 Another Morte (98851) 11.00 Days of Our Lives (18785) 12.00 Oprah Winfrey (84143) 1.00pm Geraldo (60563) 2.00 Sally Jessy Apartsel (74853) 3.00 Jenny Jones (77889) 4.00 Oprah Winfrey (89124) 5.00 She Trekt Voyager (3922) 8.00 Dream Teem (9882) 6.30 Memed. with Children (1114) 7.00 The Strapstons (4821) 7.30 Reaf TV (8018) 8.00 Semeth Heyern (82195) 9.00 Pacific Palasabes (72940) 10.00 bits Litrophered (22327) 11.00 She Trekt Voyager (9950) 12.00 Leb Strow with David Letterman (94254) 1.00mm in the Heat of the Night 51099) 2.00 Long Play (5735633) SKY MIPMS

SKY NEWS Worktwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1

6.00em Siver Bears (1978) (82774582) 8.00sm Siver Bears (1979) (82774582) 7.50 Oxt of Time (1988) (8424650) 9.30 Marriage on the Rocks (1985) (75476) 11.30 Dumeion Checks in (1995) (55124) 1.00pm Siver Bears (1978) (89785) 3.00 Marriage on the Rocks (1988) (8508) 5.00 First Knight (1988) (1537583) 7.15 Duty-ton Checks in (1988) (8500143) 9.00 Theshe Marriagh (1986) (20105327) 11.18 Once You Meet 2 Stranger (1986) (44056) 12.50am SFW (1985) (253085) 2.30 Hostille Force (1996) (758463) 4.16

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2 SKY MOVIES SUREER 4

8.30cm The Joy of Living (1938) (1353)
8.00 Born to be Wild (1985) (7439576)
8.40 Bediam (1994) (919308) 11.00
Shangini Express (1932) (797434)
12.25pm Mayday at 40,000 Feet (1976)
1937785 2.00 I William High a Zombie
(1943) (480629) 3.10 The Ghost Ship
(1943) (493629) 3.10 The Ghost Ship
(1943) (47372) 8.00 Jank and Sansh
(1993) (47372) 8.00 Jank and Sansh
(1993) (47372) 8.00 Jank and Sansh
(1993) (47372) 10.00 Willia Angel (1994)
(1955) 4750 The Onter Unknown (1985)
649476) 1.15mm Half (1994) (562273)
3.10 Not Ilise Us (1995) (33640) 4.45
The Consistent Brothers (2287544)

SKY MOVIES GOLD 4.00pm The San Chase (1985) (1409853) 8.00 The Raftway Children (1970) (298232) 8.00 Good Guys Weer Black (1970) (2985037) 10.00 Finis Beenty (1987) (7147582) 11.45 All of Me (1984) (2257478) 1.20mm Sussus Shept Here (1964) (2428603) 3.00 The Sicilian Clem (1969) (25238419) 4.55 Close

TNT 2.00pm The Trensure of the Sterra Steden (1948) (4022327) 11,15 Young Canaday: (1965) (14932057) 1.15em Es-cape from Each (1962) (54317544) 2.45 The Yollow Rolls Royce (1964) (84508321) 5.00 Close SKY SPORTS 1

SKY SPORTS 1

7,00em Sports Centre (38476) 7.30 Wresting (37495) 8.26 Sports Centre (48476) 8.00 Reading News (82055) 9.30 Aemobics (75018) 19.00 The Footbellers' Footbell Show (48485) 11.00 Pool (83255) 12.00 Aerobics Oz Style (42292) 12.30pm Cricket Mark New Zeeland XV England XV (51882) 2.30 Tarter Earl (3327) 3.00 The Footbellers' Footbell Show (15563) 4.00 Westersports World (84896) 5.00 Wresting (1476) 6.00 Sports Centre (84896) 5.00 Wresting (1476) 6.00 Sports Centre (4821) 10.30 Futbol Mundal (5306) 7.00 Cricket Mark New Zeeland XI v England XI (613037) 10.00 Sports Centre (4821) 10.30 Futbol Mundal (6909) 11.00 Pool (44124) 12.00 Sports Centre (90254) 12.30 sm Cricket Mark New Zeeland XI v England XI (2769709) 3.30 Sports Centre (88254) 4.00 Close

SKY SPORTS 2 7,00mm Aarobics (8210200) 7.30 Sporte Certins (7765394) 8.00 Recing Name (8374533) 8.30 Fish TV (9675785) 8.30 Survival of the Pritest (4534673) 10.00 be Hockey, Notingham v Bredinell (482230) 12.30 pm Ternis: WTA Kremin Cup (2836292) 2.30 Get Eara (1837222) 9.00 Febre Sports (1984358) 7.00 Sports Certins (2830465) 7.30 Got Eara (7751308) 11.00 Euro Tour Weeldy (7834414) 11.30 Sports Action (4841476) 12.90 Offshore Powerboats (8238490) 12.30 em Futrol Mundlet (394841) 1.00 Sports Certins (2817772) 1.30 Sport USA (2304683) 3.00 Close

SKY SPORTS 3 12.00pm Wresting (62191097) 1.50 Fish TV (62100786) 2.00 Superbours (67562921)

UK GOLD

Rugby Union: European Cuo (85424650) 8.30 Pool: World Chemplonehip (86297058) 8.30 Offenore Powerboats (55324834) 7.00 Reh TV (89760259) 8.00 Sport USA (84947105) 9.30 Windsurfing: World Tour (82192785) 10.00 Sportrals (85784582) 10.30 Golden Age of Motor Racing (42512768) 11.36 Close EUROSPORT

7.30am Eurogosis (82327) 9.00 UEFA Cup (79485) 10.00 UEFA Cup (10414) 11.30 Wheeles (39143) 12.00 ATP Tour Review (37363) 12.30am, Termise Kreelin Cup— 1.206 12.30am, Termise Kreelin Cup— 1.206 12.30am, Termise Kreelin Cup— 1.206 12.30am, Termise Cup— (78747) 7.00 8oxforg World Games (5800) 8.00 Speed Deris World Crallenge (5906) 9.00 Boxforg— Ure (83143) 11.00 (5016) 9.00 Boxforg— Ure (83143) 11.00 (5016) 9.00 Boxforg— Ure (83143) 11.00 (5016) 9.00 Boxforg— Ure (83143) 11.00 (83222) 12.00 World Cup Dream Team (83222) 12.00 World Cup Dream Team (83222) 12.00 World Cup

2977105) S.30 The Pdf (298016) 4.00 Julief Bravo (7823458) S.98 EastEnders (7823458) S.98 EastEnders (7823458) Full House (788414) 6.25 That's Showbusiness (8822016) 7.40 It Art's Half Flot, Mum (4982211) 7.45 Don't Wait Up (1119150) 8.20 Yes Minister (1153582) 9.00 The Bill (1075747) 8.30 The Chair (2524563) 16.36 The Black Additional (5456259) 11.30 Natical Video (5780590) 12.236m Chancer (797147) 1.20 Minister (797157) 1.20 Minis

5.30 News (96803)

8.08am Tre Box (3162114) 7.00 Corotation St (8916921) 7.20 Femilies (8635056) 8.00 Supplies Supplies (864698) 9.00 Doubles Downstein (834653) 10.00 The

Designaria, Downsters (1934-65) 10.00 Februaria, Downsters (1952-640), 17.00 Februaria (1961-747), 17.00 Corpusition St (4965/22), 12.30ptm Femilies (2155501) 1.00 Editor (1965-65), 2.00 (1965-65), 2.00 Downster (1960-252), 4.00 Downster (1960-252), 4.

(\$724059) 3.00 Dorejtue (9900292) 4.00 The Professionals (9900327) 5.00 Hewel Five-O (1807785) 6.00 Fernilles (2941327)

Up (7503476) 7.20 UEFA Champions Lague (7184650) 10.00 Hewelt Five-O (7502747) 11.00 Close DISNEY CHANNEL 6.60em Dumbo's Circus (16891) 6.30 Under the Umbrella Tree (12660) 7.00 Aladdin: The Series (67698) 7.30 Cusck Autoria: The Senior (67656) 7.20 Custon Pack (46105) 8.00 Dinosaus (83835) 8.30 Bonians (33376) 9.00 Gummi Beers (83908) 9.30 Grounding Marsh (1175124) 9.86 Small Sorios (8863834) 10.00 Sess-ms Street (42388) 11.00 Winnie the Pools (5867239) 11.15 Apsic and Jim (8829940) 11.36 Sing Me a Story with Balle (1107921) 12.00 Tots TV (8539679) 12.20pm Disney (7/18/29) 1.00 Sessme Street (3099) 2.00 Amezing Arimets (1259) 2.30 Gummi Bean (6679) 3.00 Tale Spin (1789) 3.30 Goof Troop (129) 4.00 Timon and Puribas (3718) 4.30 Aladelin: The Series (9143) 5.00

SATELLITE AND CABLE

Action in The Railway Children (Sky Movies Gold, 6.00pm) 6,30 Coronation St (2932679) 7,00 Stand

> 4.00em Dely (20776950) 8.300 Bely the Car (11851437 7.000 Procentino (4651299) 7.300 Power Rangers Zeo (4510766) 8.000 Big Bad Beetheborgs (50660737 8.300 Masined Filder (6065306) 9.000 Magic Borr (6043960) 9.300 Dudley the Dregon (4005969) 10.300 Imperior Geodgel (1125495) 10.300 Serrusal Pizza Cets (6078972) 11.000 Sweet Valley High (4529414) 12.000 Ace Vertifier 8060120, 12 30tem Cessor (4009785) [9689124] 12.30pm Casper (4009785) 1,00 The Tick (4523230) 1,30 Inon Man (4008056) 2.00 Fermanio Four (7693582) 2,30 Power Rangers Zeo (5370211 3.00 Big Bad Bendsborgs (7823689) 3.30 Bad Baedeborgs (7689989) 3.34 ad Pader (5382056) 4.00 Ace Ventur (\$381563) 4.30 Casper (\$367747) 5.00 The Tick (7684834) 5.30 X Man (\$381327) 6.00

FOX KIDS NETWORK

8.00pm The A-Team (8705105) 9.00 Tour of Duty (6725969) 10.00 Red Shoe Dignes (9196230) 10.45 FB.list American Velozza (1993) (800872) 12.42mm Tour of Duty [5187790) 1.45 Red Shoe Dignes (2965325) 8.00mm Happily Ever Alter (11495) 6.30 Bobby's World (25124) 7.00 Spirou (63872) 7.30 Dommis the Memace (59679) 8.00 Eat-men (18259) 8.30 Both Master (33330) 9.00

CARTOON NETWORK

NICKELODEON

TROUBLE

BRAVO

All your tenounte carloons broadcast from 5.00em to 9.00pm, seven days a week.

6.00mm Killer Torrutoes (68921) 6.30 Aashhi Real Monsters (26698) 7.00 Hey Amold (23018) 7.30 Rugrets (45853) 8.00

12.00pm Swen's Crossing (8873414) 12.30 Ready or Not (8394124) 1.80 Madison (4583056) 1.30 Callornia Dreams

Marison (4583056) 1.30 Callionia Disans (2393465) 2.00 Saved by the Bell (6530563) 2.30 Swen's Crossing (7201965) 2.00 Sized (6559569) 3.30 Ready or Not (7208414) 4.00 Saved by the Bell (726521) 4.30 USA High (7291705) 5.30 Hangtime (6554143) 5.30 California Disans (7205785) 6.00 Blast (7202899) 6.30 Madison (7295850) 7.00 Hangtime (6541679) 7.30 USA High (72834) 8.00 Clase

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.50pm Grace Under Fire (4637) 7.30 Rossanne (2834) 8.00 Ellen (9495) 8.30

**了一个**一个一个一个一个 (20940) 10.00 Fracier (41563) 16.30 The Kenny Everett Show (50211) 11.00 Gayle's World (53969) 11.30 Ellen (78114) 12.00 Rosserme (68969) 12.30 ellen (78114) 12.00 (59419) 1.00 Soep (15235) 1.30 Texi (54612) 2.00 Gayle's World (53709) 2.30 Grace Linder Fire (55644) 3.00 Frasier (35099) 3.30 The Kenny Everett Show (68656) 4.00 Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL 8.00pm Sightings (8260485) 8.30 Sightings (3010786) 9.00 FBLM: Downstraft (4867582) 11.00 Friday the 13th (2167495) 12.00 Sightings (8940438) 1.00mm Twilight Zone (6922148) 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected (6124308) 2.00 Dark Shadows (1316780) 2.30 New Hitchcock (1335815) 3.00 Friday the 13th (7047419) 4.00 Close Asaihhi Real Monsters (28688) 7.00 Hey Arnold (33016) 7.30 Rugrats (45853) 6.00 Doug (4747) 8.30 Newerending Story (46018) 9.00 C89C (82669) 10.00 Wirmon's House (79150) 10.30 Babar (59582) 11.00 Magic School Bus (93760) 11.30 Bendrass in Pygrines (18366) 12.00 Paddington Best rat (40834) 12.30 pm Litile Red Tractor etc (77478) 1.00 Dr Seuss (32389) 1.30 Little Best Stories (76747) 2.00 Animal Show (3259) 2.30 C89C (1989) 3.00 C89C (8769) 3.30 Rocko/Doug (8414) 4.00 Angry Besters (5221) 4.30 Rugrats (1105) 3.00 Sater Sicier (3211) 8.30 Kenan and Kel (5785) 6.00 Saterina (2698) 6.30 Moesha (850) 7.00 Close

HOME & LEISURE 9.00mm Straply Peinting (8366124) 9.30 Gerden Celender (8398582) 10.00 Great Gardening Plot (8611940) 10.30 New Yankee Workshop (8382308) 11.00 Res: Hunt (108863) 11.30 Hometine (1087582) 12.00 The Close Guide (8346360) 12.30pm Two's Country (5807698) 1.00 Just for Starters (4568290) 1.30 Our House (8306969) 2.00 Funiture to Go (5649037) 2.30 Homemaker (7207143) 3.00 Two's Country (6855872) 3.30 This Old House (7279380) 4.00 Close

4.00pm The Dicamon (7298495) 4.30 Driving Passions (7284679) 5,00 Ancient Warrions (6534369) 5,30 Beyond 2000 (7218259) 6,00 Deedly Australians (7208672) 6,30 Deedly Australians (7299124) 7.00 World of Strange Power (7229124) 7.00 World of Strange Powers (6547853) 7.30 Wonders of Weather (7295305) 8.00 Wysterfous Universe (8565501) 8.50 Super Natural (8542309) 9.00 Raging Planet (672143) 10.00 Raging Planet (672430) 11.00 Eareme Machines (4553679) 12.00 Pigritine (3141705) 12.30mm Driving Passions (5607983) 1.00 Wonders of Weether (7557544) 1.30 Bewond 2000 (2943899)

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm Endangered: Esperanza (7604688) 7.30 The Eagle and the Shake (5968476) 8.00 Phenthal (7680015) 8.30 Shake Bler (7682653) 9.00 Lions of the African Night (3654960) 10.00 Champions of the Wave (3964747) 11.00 They Never Set Foot on

sign 12.20pm why Me? 1.30 lethospool 1,59 Ready, Seady, Cook 2.30 Chesp Chic 3.00 Live at Three 4.05 Jerry Springer 3.00 Rolonda 5.30 Lucky Ledders 6.20 Ready, Steady, Cook 7.00 Hearts Afre 7.30 Mysteries, Magic and Miracles 6.00 Adrenalin Junides 9.00 FR.Mt. Marthia, Right and Edile 11.00 Spicy Sex Files 12.00 Close ZEE TV 6.30ms Nager Pene Roop Neger 7.00 Jeagren 7.30 Ghoomte Aana 8.00 Choket 4.00pts Public Demand 5.00 ZEE Zone

LIVING

April Bast 8.00 News 8.30 Dastagn 9.00 Pel Co Pal 10.00 Filmi Bastein 10.30 ZEE Ha Parade 11.00 Purush Kshetra 11.30 Sz. ziera 12.00 Ciose The 24 hour stude channel, includes news, reviews, live concert lookage, interviews and the latest music video charts.

5.30 Teen Do Panch 6.00 Hum Paanch 6.30 ZEE and You 7.00 Liberty 7.30 Seneral

The video hits channel. Classic rock an

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**RACING 47** 

Favourite holds on to bring home Melbourne Cup

Olazabal's recovery makes for memorable year



**WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 5 1997** 

BAF cash crisis takes heavy toll

# Britain drop top coaches in shake-up

SOME of Great Britain's most distinguished coaches, who have produced Olympic and world champions such as Sally Gunnell and Jonathan Edwards, were yesterday among 21 people made redundant by the British Athletic Federation (BAF).

Administrators at the national governing body are to pay off Bruce Longden, menr of Gunnell, and Carl Johnson, coach to Edwards, in reducing the total BAF payroll from 34 to 13. The national governing body faces debts of £500,000 and has running costs of £130,000 a month.

However, many of the coaches may be employed by constituent members of the BAF, such as the Amateur Athletic Association of England, with assets of more than £1 million, or by the individual

Jayne Pearce, the BAF spokeswomen, said: "Dave Moorcroft | the new chief executive and the rest of the professional staff in our office will, for the time being, carry on, but the future is by no means certain."

Moorcroft, who took up his £70,000-a-year job only a month ago, vowed that British athletics would be in a better long-term position after the administrators had completed their job and he stressed that the crisis would not prevent top-level athletes from competing in international events.

metres record-holder said: "I think in the long term there will be a better structure for the delivery of the sport in this country. It's really depressing to see the administrators making these decisions, but you have got to be positive and think something better and stronger will come out of it."

Moorcroft told Radio 5 Live: "At the moment, it is very have to feel sorry for the 21 who have lost their

As well as Longden and Johnson, the BAF is likely to lose Peter Warden, the North West coach, David Lease, in the West, Brad McStravick, in the North East, and Brian Hall. Andy Vince and Phil Banning, the national coaches of Northern Ireland, Scotland

and Wales respectively. Pearce said: "We are hoping that the coaches will be able to to carry on with their roles in



Arnold: excellence

some shape or form, perhaps with funding from the region. However, we are not able to fund them. It is obviously a very sad day for everyone at

The BAF still has four technical directors - Norman Knight (sprints and hurdles). Max Jones (throws) and Tudor Bidder (jumps and combined events) - and they will oversee the top 190 athletes under the direction of Malcolm Arnold.

Arnold said: "I am just hoping that the other organ-isations in athletics will help in the short term. We are looking now at a leaner,

meaner machine, a more professional set-up. There remains a residual excellence in the sport. Britain are, after all,

European Cup-holders." He forecast that, unless more money became available, the sport would suffer in the long term, with the danger that youngsters would go out of athletics. Technical publica-tions, for which British athletics is renowned, would also be affected. Longden said that he had feared the redundancies would be coming. He agreed with Arnold that youngsters would be the ones to "miss

out."
"The top echelon is ring-fenced," he said, "but the youngsters will be thinking: 'How am I going to break through in this sport?' There may not be the regional support. We are responsible for the education courses and the performance training weekends. Who is now going to pay for these facilities:

The Birmingham-based BAF, formed in 1991 despite constant bickering among its national and regional constituent members, has been dog-ged by financial problems. Television revenue and sponsorship have fallen. Much of the television money and sponsorship money have often gone to other flourishing organisations in athletics, such as the London Marathon, with its own office, professional staff and high profile. The hefty legal costs.

The BAF has not ruled out selling its own premises in an attempt to avert bankruptcy, while the immediate future of domestic showpiece events remains shrouded in uncertainty because of the financial problems. The answer to its troubles may be a national registration scheme, which exists in other Olympic sports, such as swimming, rowing, judo and weighdifting. Even at £10 per head, this could raise an estimated El million a year, with the BAF also able to sell its registration list to sports goods manufacturers.



Graham Bell, the leading British downhill skier, tests the new Jordan wing funnel in Brackley, Northamptonshire. The tunnel has been built to enhance training facilities for the 1998 Winter Olympic Games. Photograph: Mike Cooper / Allsport

# Contrite Tyson says he fears life ban

he will never get back his licence to box. The former world heavyweight champi-on, who was indefinitely suspended for biting a piece out of Evander Holyfield's ear in a world title bout in June, told on Monday night "Truly, I think I'll be banned for the

rest of my life." It was Tyson's first appear ance on network television since being disqualified and forced out of boxing in disgrace. Tyson said: "I truly think everyone hates me. I truly believe that, because no one gets punished more than l am. But I understand. I'm a big boy and I believe big boys have big ordeals to be dealt

Tyson thought that people wanted him to beg for mercy.
"I'm not that way," he said.
"This is who I am and maybe

accepted by the Premier League. When the game was

Elleray: no choice

tors were allowed in free - it

West Ham also had to

contend with problems off the

pitch on Monday night after

John Hartson, their Wales

striker, was the subject of

allegations of drunkenness in

an Essex hotel last Thursday

morning. He was reportedly

arrested by police but subse-

quently let off with a warning.

and nothing," Storrie said.

There was an incident, but it

was sorted out. We are happy

with his explanation."

"We have spoken to John

ended in a 1-1 draw.

From Srikumar Sen, boxing correspondent, in las vegas

sometimes it's the insecurity. I want to be the defiant person. That's part of my insecurit

Having viewed tapes of the that his action left him with a feeling of "disgust, disdain and humiliation". He added: "I shouldn't have done that. It was just striking out and totally hatred right there. I shouldn't have done that, because that was one moment, I just forgot he was a human being.

"It was extremeness. There was some serious stuff going on in my head. I just snapped I was no longer playing under the rules. Any kind of functional thinking, any kind of rational thinking, that was totally out the window. Once the boundaries were crossed,

I had no more respect for the Tyson, who was joined for

part of the interview by his wife, Dr Monica Turner, and three of their children, said he



Tyson: interview

Hay has parted company with the club, having been dis-

missed as manager in 1987.

He was brought as chief scout

under Tommy Burns three years ago and acted as care-

taker before the arrival of

striker, was back on target yesterday two months after

brain surgery. Jackson mak-ing his first appearance at Parkhead since his operation, equalised for the reserves in

their 2-2 draw against Dun-

Fearful Feyenoord ....

Positive Dalglish

Rioch eyes vacancy \_\_\_\_ 48

and Jansen must have been

impressed with his display in

Jansen in the summer. Darren Jackson, the Celtic

kind of scary to change and feel a little helpless in chang-ing," he said. "We are working on it and hopefully it will turn out better. I don't know why I'm afraid to charige. I

going to happen overnight."

Holyfield said he forgave Tyson, but did not think they would meet in the ring again.
"He is sorry and he felt that he did it out of anger, which everyone knows." Holyfield said. "I'm friends with him anyway. I love him, I forgive him. It's not so much that he has to apologise, he did already, but I don't think I would fight him [again].

Tyson's fears are understandable, for, immediately after the bout, many people said that they wanted him banned for life. They were disappointed that the Nevada

told Tyson he could make an a year. The decision to give an interview could be part of an attempt to condition the thinking of the commission certainly extend the ban for

another year. An exclusion of 12 months is regarded in boxing as being 🐴 no punishment at all, but Tyson's moroseness is not reflected in the thinking of the casinos here. Even though MGM Grand has ended its deal with Don King. Tyson's promoter, the casino is not against looking at Tyson contests if and when he gets his licence back.

Desc.

6

Bill Doak, the publicity director of MGM, said: "When he gets his licence, we will look at his fights, case by

# TIMESTTWO

### No 1243

### ACROSS

- 7 Travelling in the sky (8)
- 8 Henry VI's foundation (4) 9 Fine. soft. fragile (8)
- 10 Rubber (6) 13 Renal organ (6)
  - 14 Scout for food (6) 15 Solid durable (6)
  - 18 Green wormwood drink (8)
- 19 13Erth gives its volume (4) 20 Repentant (8)

2 21 Two OT books: Henry VI's

other foundation (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 1242

- 5 Sort of fee: family servant 6 One standing bail (6)
  - II A graze (8)

6 Seaguil 7 Secrecy 12 Delayed 13 Salvage 15 Orchard

16 Oracle 17 Snail 19 Dress 21 Ruhr

12 Selective-breeding study (8)

DOWN

14 César — composer (6) 15 Midday snooze (6)

I Ankle cover, a spat (6)

2 Seventh planet out (6)

4 Women's-rights believer (8)

3 Over there (6)

- 16 Ragged child (6) 17 Main meal of day (6)
- ACROSS: 1 Check off 7 Snide 8 Improvise 9 Log 10 Keel 11 Cherry 13 Sister 14 Scroll 17 Stairs 18 Scud 20 Van 22 Encourage 23 Grind 24 Hebrides DOWN: 1 Chink 2 Express 3 Knob 4 Flight 5 Billy

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# West Ham spark blackout inquiry

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

WEST Ham United are still It is the second time this season that a Premiership investigating the cause of the Boodlight failure that resulted match has been abandoned in their FA Carling Premierbecause of floodlight failure. ship match against Crystal Palace being abandoned after Derby County were leading Wimbledon 2-1 in August 66 minutes on Monday night. when a circuit-breaker, which The board of the FA Premier had been set too low, shut off League, which runs the Prethe lights at Pride Park after 57 miership, has also asked for a report on why the lights went Derby carried out an investigation after the game was called off and its findings were out at Upton Park.

Twelve seconds after Frank Lampard had equalised for West Ham, completing their comeback from 2-0 down, the ground was plunged into darkness. Despite efforts to find the fault, the game was called off half an hour later, at 9.50pm. A date has yet to be set for the rearranged fixture. Season ticket-holders will not be affected, but other supporters have been advised to retain their ticket stubs while the club considers offering reduced prices. There will be no refunds, in accordance with League regulations, and it is unlikely that the fans will

be given free admission. There was a fault at the South End, which controls the floodlights for both ends of the ground, and it was impossible to find in the time available," Peter Storrie, the West Ham managing director, said. Everything has now got to be thoroughly checked and rechecked and that's what we're

For David Elleray, the refere, it was a familiar experience. It was the fourth time in his career that the floodlights had failed while he was officiand he said it was something ating - the last being at Crystal Palace. "It was a great shame," he said. "The game was flowing nicely and it hardly needed a ref.

# Celtic bringing Lambert home

BY KEVIN MCCARRA

CELTIC are to sign Paul Lambert from Borussia Dortmund later this week for F).75 million. He would then be able to make his debut for the club against Rangers on Saturday.

The transfer is another significant episode in a career that has taken onlookers by surprise in the summer of 1996, he was a midfield player of modest reputation at Moth-erwell, but the Bosman ruling persuaded Dortmund to risk employing him since they did not have to pay a fee to the Scottish club. Since then, Lambert has collected a European Cup-winners' medal, having exerted great influence in the 3-1 victory over Juventus in the final, and become a key mem-

ber of the Scotland team. He has continued to appear regularly for Dortmund this season, but the club has a new coach, Nevio Scala, who was prepared to countenance the sale. Celtic first considered purchasing him in January and, despite a change of manager, when Wim Jansen was appointed, that interest did not abate, even though negotiations have been tortu-

Dortmund play Parma in the Champions' League this evening and Lambert, 28, will not be allowed to travel to Glasgow to conclude the deal until temorrow.

Celtic's backroom upheaval has claimed another casualty. with the departure of David Hay, the assistant general manager, just a week after Danny Crainie, the youth coach. was also deemed surplus to requirements at Parkhead.

This is the second time that

fermline, steering home a pass from Tommy Johnson. Jackson had earlier shown no reservations about heading the ball, powering one effort against the crossbar. He played for the full 90 minutes

> his third comeback match. Steve Corica. -the Wolverhampton Wanderers midfield player, has been ruled out for the rest of the season and will miss the World Cup finals if Australia qualify. Corica, 24, who has played only two minutes of first-team football this season, has undergone a

on which he had cruciate ligament surgery in the spring. There's no explanation why the operation failed and it's just a case now of Steve going through the whole process again," Mark McGhee, the Wolves manager, said. "It is very disappointing for him. especially in World Cup year."

total reconstruction of the knee

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